

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION 15

By: Stephens of the Senate

and

McDugle of the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the history and tourism behind the Golden Driller; recognizing contributions of Oklahoma's oil and gas industry; recognizing role of John Franklin Stephens Jr.; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the first International Petroleum Exposition and Congress was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1923; and

WHEREAS, the International Petroleum Exposition (IPE) continued to be held in Tulsa to educate workers and the public and serve as a marketplace for new equipment; and

WHEREAS, at the 1953 IPE, the first "Golden Driller" was put on display by the Mid-Continent Supply Company. The Texas company returned in 1959 with a second temporary driller statue; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, the Golden Driller was permanently installed, and the IPE had the largest attendance in the event's history; and

WHEREAS, with an arm resting on an oil derrick and standing at 76 feet and weighing 43,500 pounds, the towering Golden Driller

1 statue became a Tulsa landmark and was named the state monument in  
2 1979; and

3 WHEREAS, the Golden Driller was modeled after Sapulpa resident  
4 John Franklin Stephens Jr., who was 29 at the time and served as the  
5 superintendent of the Golden Driller Project; and

6 WHEREAS, the Driller was dedicated to the men of the petroleum  
7 industry and serves as a reminder of Oklahoma's rich history in the  
8 oil and gas industry.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION  
10 OF THE 59TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
11 CONCURRING THEREIN:

12 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the history and  
13 tourism behind the state monument, the Golden Driller.

14 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the contributions  
15 of the oil and gas industry to the state's economy and history.

16 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the role of John  
17 Franklin Stephens Jr. in the design and construction of the Golden  
18 Driller.

19 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Tulsa  
20 Historical Society, Oklahoma History Center, Tulsa Expo Square, and  
21 The Petroleum Alliance of Oklahoma.

22  
23 59-1-2248 KG 5/22/2023 1:00:39 PM  
24  
25