Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 133

By: Johnson (Constance), Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Ballenger, Barrington, Bass, Bingman, Branan, Brogdon, Brown, Burrage, Coates, Coffee, Corn, Crain, Crutchfield, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Ellis, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Halligan, Ivester, Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Leftwich, Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei, Myers, Newberry, Nichols, Paddack, Reynolds, Rice, Russell, Schulz, Sparks, Stanislawski, Sweeden, Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick

A Resolution applauding, commending and congratulating Russell M. Perry, founder, owner and CEO of Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company in Northeast Oklahoma City, on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of The Black Chronicle Newspaper; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Russell M. Perry grew up on Oklahoma City's Eastside looking forward to the day when he too would wear the proud title of "Frederick A. Douglass High School Trojan". Russell M. Perry not only wore the title with pride, he consummated the Douglass High School legacy of excellence in achievement by single-handedly

leading the 1957 Trojan Football Team to the State Championship when they defeated the Capitol Hill High School Redskins; and

WHEREAS, following high school, Russell M. Perry attended college at Eastern Shore Maryland, then returned to Oklahoma City where he resumed a love affair with the printed word that for him began as a child delivering the Black Dispatch Newspaper, published by the late Roscoe Dunjee, within his community; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Russell M. Perry subsequently became the founder, owner and publisher of The Black Chronicle Newspaper. Thirty years later, the award-winning newspaper is Oklahoma's longest published African American newspaper, and the largest paid-weekly newspaper located in Northeast Oklahoma City, with annual revenues exceeding One Million Dollars and approximately 30,000 copies in circulation, with subscribers in every state of the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, the Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company is home to sixteen AM and FM radio stations including three in Lawton and Duncan, two in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, one in Anadarko, and five in Augusta, Georgia. He also owns Perry Towers Corporation and boasts the state's tallest broadcast tower; and

WHEREAS, Russell M. Perry further displayed fortitude and perseverance to reach personal and professional goals through his service as Oklahoma's first African American Secretary of Commerce, as Secretary of Development and Special Affairs, and Special Adviser for Economic Development. He also demonstrated exemplary service in a number of municipal, county, state and federal capacities; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his career and accomplishments in broadcasting and journalism, Russell M. Perry was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 2009. He is a member of the Oklahoma Press Association, National Newspaper Press Association, and National Newspaper Association; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to right an apparent oversight that occurred over 30 years ago when ceremonies acknowledging the Black Dispatch Newspaper for its role in the community failed to mention Russell M. Perry's role in the paper's success, this resolution is offered to celebrate one man's determination and persistence to

ensure that everything that is done to promote this community is inclusive, regardless of politics and personalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate hereby applauds, commends and congratulates Russell M. Perry on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of The Black Chronicle Newspaper in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and for his keen business acumen and leadership in founding the Perry Publishing and Broadcasting Company, a publishing and broadcasting conglomerate in Northeast Oklahoma City whose potential for fostering positive change in the community, state and nation is unsurpassed.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Russell M. Perry.

Adopted by the Senate the 28th day of May, 2010.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this 28th **day of** May, **20** 10,

at 9:00 **o'clock** P **M.**

By: M. Susan Cauley