

Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 56

By: Justice, Adelson, Aldridge,
Allen, Anderson, Ballenger,
Barrington, Bass, Bingman,
Branan, Brecheen, Brinkley,
Brown, Burrage, Childers,
Coates, Crain, David, Eason
McIntyre, Ellis, Fields,
Ford, Garrison, Griffin,
Halligan, Holt, Ivester,
Johnson (Constance),
Johnson (Rob), Jolley,
Laster, Lerblance, Marlatt,
Mazzei, McAffrey, Newberry,
Nichols, Paddack, Russell,
Schulz, Shortey, Simpson,
Sparks, Stanislowski,
Sykes, Treat, Wilson and
Wyrick

A Resolution commending the life and accomplishments of Oklahoma children's author Bill Wallace; extending condolences to the Wallace family; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Bill Wallace was raised in Chickasha, Oklahoma, and graduated from Chickasha High School in 1965. He received his bachelors in Elementary Education from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in 1971 and his masters in Elementary Administration from Southwestern State University in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Bill worked for Chickasha Public Schools for 16 years, serving in a number of roles including teaching P.E., kindergarten, 4th grade and serving as assistant principal at the ninth grade

center and as principal of West Elementary, which was later renamed the Bill Wallace Early Childhood Center; and

WHEREAS, he began his writing career in 1971 at Lincoln Elementary, after submitting stories for publishing that he had used to entertain his 4th grade students after recess; and

WHEREAS, Bill published his first book, "A Dog Called Kitty" in 1980 even though it was the third to be written. "Danger on Panther Peak" was his first written book and the third to be published, while "Trapped in Death Cave" was second; and

WHEREAS, over his career, Bill wrote 31 children's books and co-authored seven with his wife of 45 years, Carol; and

WHEREAS, Bill was honored with 21 State Children Choice Awards from around the nation, as well as the Oklahoma Center for the Book's Arrell M. Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Bill's stories, some set in the historic Old West and others taking place in the present day, offer adventure and comedy for grade-school and middle-grade readers. Many of his books also offer important life lessons by exploring issues such as death, peer pressure and responsibility, among others; and

WHEREAS, Bill's stories have touched the hearts of children and adults around Oklahoma, the country and the world; and

WHEREAS, Bill lost his battle with lung cancer on January 30, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the life and accomplishments of Oklahoma children's author Bill Wallace.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate extends condolences to the Wallace family.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to his wife, Carol Wallace and his children, Laurie Whitener, Nikki Moore and Justin Wallace.

Adopted by the Senate the 9th day of May, 2012.

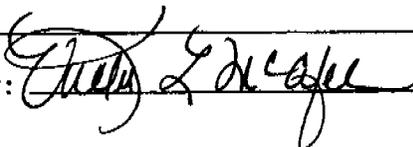


Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this _____

_____ 10th day of May, 20 12,
at 9:59 o'clock _____ A _____ M.

By:  _____