

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

SMR 1

4
5 By: Senator Salmon
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8 **SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

9 IN HONOR OF THE LATE HARRY L. OSWALD, WHO HELPED
10 BRING ELECTRICITY TO RURAL ARKANSAS THROUGH HIS
11 TIRELESS PROMOTION OF THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
12 PROGRAM AND WHO DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO THE
13 BETTERMENT OF HIS BELOVED STATE.
14

15 **Subtitle**

16 IN HONOR OF THE LATE HARRY L. OSWALD, A
17 RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PIONEER.
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20 WHEREAS, Mr. Harry L. Oswald was a native Arkansan who worked
21 tirelessly to improve the lives of all Arkansans, especially those in rural
22 areas, by serving as a school teacher, school principal, mayor, and leader of
23 the electric cooperative movement; and
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25 WHEREAS, Mr. Oswald worked as field representative for the Rural
26 Electrification Administration (REA) and helped secure funding for electric
27 cooperatives in Arkansas during the early days of the rural electrification
28 program; and
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30 WHEREAS, Mr. Oswald, as the first general manager of Arkansas Electric
31 Cooperatives, Inc., (AECI), a statewide service organization for electric
32 cooperatives, was instrumental in helping the cooperatives win crucial
33 political battles that strengthened the electric cooperatives; and
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35 WHEREAS, Mr. Oswald helped form Arkansas Electric Cooperative
36 Corporation (AECC), a generation and transmission cooperative that owns all



1 or portions of eleven (11) power plants that serve more than four hundred
2 sixty thousand (460,000) members; and

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4 WHEREAS, Mr. Oswald was a devoted husband and father, an innovative
5 businessman, and a tireless promoter of the cooperatives and his beloved
6 state,

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8 NOW THEREFORE,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
10 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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12 THAT the Senate and the citizens of Arkansas express their profound
13 gratitude to the late Mr. Harry L. Oswald for his steadfast support of
14 education, for his dedication to the betterment of rural Arkansans by helping
15 bring electricity to the state's farms and small towns, and for his lifelong
16 love of family, state, and country.

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the individual members of the Senate hereby
19 express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Harry L. Oswald, and upon
20 adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to the
21 family of Mr. Oswald by the Secretary of the Senate.