

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 4

By: Dossett

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution recognizing March 10 as Bob Wills Day at the Capitol; celebrating the life and legacy of Oklahoma's son; thanking the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Oklahoma Arts Council, and the Oklahoma Film and Music Office for their work; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Bob Wills, born in 1905, began playing fiddle in his youth before moving with his band, the Texas Playboys, to Oklahoma in 1934 to pursue business and creative opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Bob Wills became known as the King of Western Swing as he helped originate and popularize a unique genre of music rooted in folk, jazz, and blues that would lead to the development of rock and roll and modern country music; and

WHEREAS, Bob Wills entertained millions of people during his heyday, performing twice weekly at what would become the historic Cain's Ballroom in Tulsa, playing live daily radio broadcasts,

1 touring across the country, and appearing in more than a dozen
2 movies; and

3 WHEREAS, Bob Wills was inducted into the Country Music Hall of
4 Fame in 1968 and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1999, and was
5 named one of the 40 Greatest Men in Country Music by Country Music
6 Television; and

7 WHEREAS, Bob Wills' family has contributed his archival and
8 artifacts collection to the Oklahoma Historical Society to be
9 featured for future generations across from Cain's Ballroom at the
10 forthcoming OKPOP Museum; and

11 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Oklahoma Arts
12 Council, and the Oklahoma Film and Music Office have partnered to
13 present Bob Wills Day at the Capitol, celebrating one of Oklahoma's
14 most significant figures in the history of popular music who
15 continues shining a bright light on our state.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
17 OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

18 THAT the Oklahoma Senate recognizes March 10 as Bob Wills Day at
19 the Capitol.

20 THAT the Oklahoma Senate offers sincere thanks to the Oklahoma
21 Historical Society, the Oklahoma Arts Council, and the Oklahoma Film
22 and Music Office.

23 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to Oklahoma
24 Historical Society Executive Director Trait Thompson, Oklahoma Arts

1 Council Executive Director Amber Sharples, and Oklahoma Film and
2 Music Office Director Jeanette Stanton.

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