109TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H. RES. 357

Honoring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida (for herself and Ms. SOLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Honoring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was born on March 26, 1930, in El Paso, Texas, and grew up in both El Paso and southeastern Arizona on her family's ranch;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor graduated magna cum laude from Stanford University in 1950 with a baccalaureate degree in economics;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor graduated from Stanford Law School and was ranked third in a class of 102 graduates;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor completed law school in 2 years, instead of the customary 3, and served on the Stanford Law Review;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor entered the public sector after her graduation from Stanford Law School as

a deputy county attorney for San Mateo County in California, after she was unable to secure a position in a number of private law firms that employed very few, if any, women as attorneys;

- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor served as Assistant Attorney General of Arizona from 1965 to 1969;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to the Arizona State Senate in 1969 and was subsequently reelected to 2 2-year terms;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor became the State Senate Majority Leader in Arizona in 1973, the first woman to serve in that position in any State;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was elected in 1975 as a judge on the Maricopa County Superior Court in Arizona, and served in that position until 1979;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals in 1979 and served in that position until her confirmation as an Associate Supreme Court Justice;
- Whereas in 1981, President Ronald Reagan nominated Sandra Day O'Connor to be the 102d Supreme Court justice and the first female member of the Supreme Court;
- Whereas Sandra Day O'Connor was confirmed by the United States Senate unanimously on September 21, 1981, and took her seat on the Supreme Court on September 25, 1981;
- Whereas the elevation of Sandra Day O'Connor as the first female justice of the Supreme Court helped pave the way for more women to enter into the legal profession;

- Whereas in 2004, women accounted for approximately half of all students enrolled in law school, compared to 35 percent of law students in 1981 and just 4 percent of law students when Justice O'Connor graduated from Stanford Law School in 1952;
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor has left a thoughtful and enduring mark on American jurisprudence, which has been molded through her wisdom and strong character; and
- Whereas Justice Sandra Day O'Connor blazed new trails for her gender and is a role model for all Americans; Now, therefore, be it
 - 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) honors Justice Sandra Day O'Connor on
 3 the occasion of her retirement from the United
 4 States Supreme Court;
- 5 (2) commends Justice Sandra Day O'Connor6 for her hard work and dedication to the law; and
- 7 (3) recognizes Justice Sandra Day O'Connor as
 8 a pioneer for women in law, helping women become
 9 a permanent and integral part of the legal profes10 sion.

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