

House Engrossed

FILED

**JANICE K. BREWER
SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2053

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

HONORING JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR FOR HER EXCEPTIONAL RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, from simple beginnings in Arizona's ranching country to
2 service as the first female justice on the United States Supreme Court,
3 Justice Sandra Day O'Connor has earned her rightful place in the history of
4 this state and nation; and

5 Whereas, Justice O'Connor spent her early years in Arizona on the
6 remote Lazy B Ranch founded by her grandfather in the 1880s, where she
7 displayed a penchant for hard work. When she reached school age, she lived
8 with her grandmother and attended school in El Paso during the school year
9 and continued to spend summers working on the ranch. After graduation from
10 high school, she earned both undergraduate and law degrees from Stanford
11 University. Justice O'Connor graduated third in her law school class of 102
12 students in 1952, yet she experienced firsthand the reluctance of law firms
13 to hire women as attorneys when her only job offer was that of a legal
14 secretary; and

15 Whereas, Justice O'Connor declined the secretarial position and instead
16 embarked on a career in public service as a deputy county attorney in
17 California. She realized early on her enjoyment of public service and she
18 continued in that realm almost exclusively for the remainder of her career.
19 Even when she became a full-time mother to her three sons, Justice O'Connor
20 was active in numerous worthwhile volunteer endeavors, including writing
21 questions for the Arizona bar exam, helping to establish the Arizona bar's
22 lawyer referral service, serving as a member of state and local commissions
23 and committees and volunteering with the Arizona State Hospital and the
24 Salvation Army; and

25 Whereas, on her return to regular employment in 1965, Justice O'Connor
26 continued her public service with such posts as assistant Arizona attorney
27 general, Arizona state senator and judge on the Maricopa County Superior
28 Court and the Arizona Court of Appeals. She made history in 1981 when
29 President Ronald Reagan appointed her to the United States Supreme Court. As
30 the Court's 102nd justice, she displayed a solid understanding of separation
31 of powers and federalism that had its roots in her service in all branches of
32 government; and

33 Whereas, throughout twenty-five years on the Supreme Court, Justice
34 O'Connor served with distinction and sought to interpret the Constitution
35 with careful and restrained reasoning. She established herself as a
36 principled and independent thinker and demonstrated diligence and integrity
37 in all of her efforts; and

38 Whereas, Justice O'Connor has distinguished herself as an outstanding
39 Arizonan and American, and it is with honor and gratitude that we recognize
40 her tremendous record of service to our state and nation.

1 Therefore
2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the
3 Senate concurring:
4 1. That the Members of the Legislature honor Justice Sandra Day
5 O'Connor for her outstanding record of public service to the citizens of
6 Arizona as well as the United States of America.
7 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy
8 of this Resolution to the Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE FEBRUARY 14, 2006.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE SENATE FEBRUARY 14, 2006.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FEBRUARY 15, 2006.