

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND COMMENDING SPECIAL DEPUTY PAUL  
NETTLETON ON HIS FIFTY YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE OWYHEE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE PEOPLE OF OWYHEE COUNTY.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, Special Deputy Paul Nettleton is marking fifty years of service to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, prior to his service for the Sheriff's Office, Mr. Nettleton caught the attention of the sheriff by assisting him in a bar fight in the town of Silver City; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, the Sheriff asked Mr. Nettleton to join his office as a special deputy; and

WHEREAS, with only his single-action .22 revolver and his trusty horse, Nugget, Deputy Nettleton answered the call; and

WHEREAS, with limited radio and cell phone connection, Deputy Nettleton and Nugget covered the 7,600 square miles of Owyhee County together, spending days on the trails, answering hundreds of calls, and searching for those who needed to be found; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1980s, Deputy Nettleton and another deputy were sent on horseback in winter to find an escapee from the local prison. They tracked the fugitive to an uninhabited cabin in the back country, but the fugitive initially eluded their search. With his cowboy instincts too dogged to be denied, Deputy Nettleton and his partner continued their search, eventually marching the fugitive out at gunpoint much to the surprise of the other deputies waiting outside; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Deputy Nettleton was asked to assist in the Claude Dallas case, a man on the F.B.I.'s most wanted list for the killing of two state game wardens who subsequently escaped prison following his conviction. Following his recapture, Claude Dallas's case became a matter of national interest and local lore in Owyhee County. At a gathering of angry Dallas supporters, Deputy Nettleton was assigned to the rooftop with a shotgun to watch over the crowd, and despite personally knowing many of the angry people below, Deputy Nettleton showed composure and resolve in doing his duty and assisting his fellow deputies; and

WHEREAS, Nugget's service ended in 1987, Deputy Nettleton's service continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, in the finest tradition of the West, Special Deputy Paul Nettleton is truly a man "whose deeds follow his words."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature commends Special Deputy Paul Nettleton on his fifty years of exemplary service to the Owyhee County Sheriff's Office and the people of Owyhee County.