

HOUSE No. 5256

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 28, 1969.

The committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Resolutions (filed by Messrs. Early of Worcester, Herman of Worcester, Bohigian of Worcester, Collaro of Worcester, Tagman of Worcester, Farrell of Worcester, Shea of Worcester, Engdahl of Worcester and Harris of Worcester) in recognition of the dedication of the Worcester Municipal Airport in the memory of James David O'Brien (House, No. 5256), reports that the same ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

PAUL MURPHY.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

RESOLUTIONS IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE WORCESTER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT IN THE MEMORY OF JAMES DAVID O'BRIEN.

1 *Whereas*, James David O'Brien, who died young at 57, but
2 who for many years was an outstanding leader in the political
3 and civic life of his beloved City of Worcester; and

4 *Whereas*, In government and politics, as in his life, he had
5 the wisdom to wish only for the attainable; to deliberate with
6 caution, to act with decision; to yield with graciousness; to
7 oppose with firmness; and

8 *Whereas*, His leadership and vision helped bring to his city
9 a renewed spirit and the courage to overcome its adversity,
10 to reshape its future, to rebuild and to progress; and

11 *Whereas*, He was for his city the true enthusiast, consumed
12 with earnestness of purpose, with faith in the worthwhileness
13 of his endeavors, with confidence in his powers; and

14 *Whereas*, He never feared to compete; yet pushed forward
15 without elbowing others aside, never trampling upon the weak,
16 never failing to hold out a helping hand to those whose steps
17 were faltering; and

18 *Whereas*, He never attempted to command but preferred
19 to persuade for he knew government to be one of the subtlest
20 of arts; neither a business, nor technology nor applied science,
21 but rather the art of helping men live together in peace and
22 with reasonable happiness; and

23 *Whereas*, As a community leader he knew violence defeats
24 its own ends; that a kind look, a good-natured smile can work
25 wonders and accomplish much; that in every human heart a
26 secret pride revolts at tyranny; and

27 *Whereas*, He believed in the brotherhood of man long before

28 it was fashionable; practicing in his daily life the spirit of
29 brotherhood, of fellow feeling and understanding between man
30 and man; and

31 *Whereas*, He never did things by halves, but if in his own
32 mind it was the right thing to do, did it boldly; if wrong, left
33 it undone, and who, when he said he would do a thing, did it;
34 and

35 *Whereas*, He knew it was folly for an eminent person to
36 think of escaping censure; and a weakness to be affected by
37 it; and though he never escaped, he never weakened; and

38 *Whereas*, Despite his preeminence in his community, he
39 never condoned the pompous or even the appearance of
40 ostentation, but rather was a man of humility who knew his
41 limitations and recognized his frailties but who dared to be
42 himself; and

43 *Whereas*, His keen wit and joyous humor could break the
44 deepest gloom and lift the heaviest spirits, he never was
45 afraid to weep for he never was out of heart, never out of
46 sentiment; and

47 *Whereas*, He had faith — faith in his City of Worcester,
48 faith in himself and his aspirations, faith in his fellow men,
49 whom he loved and served, faith in his beloved wife and
50 children, and above all, in a reverence that was one of the signs
51 of his strength, faith in God; and

52 *Whereas*, He was a man, not only of success, but a man of
53 value, who was a giant in everything but his size, and who,
54 when measured as a man, should have had the tape put around
55 his heart; and

56 *Whereas*, He doesn't need a monument, although he de-
57 serves one, for in himself, James David O'Brien always will
58 be a monument to those who truly knew him; therefore be it

59 *Resolved*, That the Massachusetts House of Representatives
60 take official note of the dedication of the Worcester municipal
61 airport, in the memory of James David O'Brien; and be it
62 further

63 *Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be forwarded by
64 the Secretary of State to his widow, Mrs. James David O'Brien,
65 and to the City Clerk of the City of Worcester, to become
66 part of the official municipal records.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 28, 1969.

Adopted.

WALLACE C. MILLS,
Clerk.