

Mherens, the people of Oklahoma recognize that an understanding of geographical concepts is crucial to the wise use of our natural resources, continued economic prosperity, and the general health and well being of our citizens and communities, and that related technologies have an important role in the future growth and security of our Great State, including the use, management, and exchange of data from Geographic Information Systems (GIS); and

Thereas, computerized Geographic Information System (GIS) technology provides an efficient and effective means for managing geographic information; and

Whereux, there is a need to promote GIS awareness, education, and technical training among various groups to most appropriately and wisely use this rapidly developing technology; and

Whereur, there is a need to coordinate these efforts to minimize duplication, reduce costs, develop standards, and to facilitate the sharing and interchange of GIS data, methods, and knowledge; and

Mhereux, extensive efforts are underway in various public and private agencies and organizations throughout Oklahoma to develop, incorporate, and utilize GIS Technology; and

Thereas, the State of Oklahoma through the State Geographic Information Council promotes and facilitates cooperation and sharing of data between state, federal and local agencies; and

Mhereus, GIS is an important part of geography awareness; and

Inherens, the State of Oklahoma is committed to expanding GIS to the general public in order to showcase real-world applications with GIS;

Moin, Therefore, I, Brud Henry, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim March 8, 2005, as

"Geographic Information Systems Pay at the Capitol"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great <u>Seal</u> of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.

