

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I want to acknowledge first off appreciation of the Speaker for placing this on the agenda. Former Senator Emry's funeral is at two o'clock this afternoon, and so it was felt to be appropriate to have this resolution considered and hopefully adopted this morning so it could be presented to his family this afternoon. Many of you may have known L.K. Emry, and of course, he was a very active participant in very many affairs over his 81 years. He only served in this Legislature for about 8 months, back in 1978, when Senator Wally Barnett left the Legislature to go to work as State Fire Marshall. He was appointed by Senator Exon to fill...excuse me, Governor Exon. He was appointed to fill Senator Barnett's place, and then fortunately, I guess, I was elected and took over the office in January the following year. But Mr. Emry served as my campaign chairman and advisor and close friend over the course of my service in the Legislature. He worked hard and long in his job at Burlington Shops in Havelock, and continually had an attitude that he needed to serve others, beyond his own family and meeting their needs, he cared about other families and other needs of other working people. As he worked hard in the labor movement, he worked hard in the Democratic Party, he worked hard in public service in the way he could best serve, that being a citizen who spoke out as strong and as loud as he could on behalf of those who were disadvantaged. He was a great man and I'm sorry to see him pass away.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in support of Senator Wesely's resolution and thank him for bringing it. You know, L.K. Emry was one of those people I think you just thought would go on forever. He was...he was just a rock. He was the salt of the earth type of human being. He was lovable, he was a person who really practiced what he believed. I just...I really can't express my feelings at this moment about L.K. Emry, except to say that I think that he should be honored here today. He believed in the...in the...the government of this country. He believed that citizens should work to improve government and to improve our lives. And he did this until the very end of his life. Interestingly enough, he spent this last weekend out at the AFL-CIO convention in Grand Island and was a participant right up to the very end.