

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 282

Introduced by Preister, 5; White, 8.

WHEREAS, more than forty years ago, the well-known writer, scientist, and ecologist, Rachel Carson, alerted America and the world to the potential hazards of pesticides in her landmark book *Silent Spring*; and

WHEREAS, despite the warning, more than 6.6 billion pounds of pesticides are spread on the earth annually, and the quantity of pesticides used in the United States has continued to grow over the years and poses a potential threat to all life forms; and

WHEREAS, our children are uniquely vulnerable to chemical pesticides due to their developing physiology and to their habit of frequently putting their hands into their mouths; and

WHEREAS, chemical pesticides applied outdoors are washed into our waterways and our drinking water sources. Several types of cancer, neurological disease, endocrine disorders, and birth defects have been associated with exposure to common pesticides; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson made a profound impact on how we treat the environment but more can still be done to further her legacy; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature invites citizens throughout

Nebraska to observe May 27, 2008, the birthdate of Rachel Carson, by refraining from using pesticides on this day and asks the citizens of Nebraska for their cooperation in seeking alternative methods of pest management, including the practice of integrated pest management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature designates May 27, 2008, as Rachel Carson Day.