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ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 135

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska has a long-term and positive relationship with Japan; and

WHEREAS, Shizuoka, Japan, has been a sister city to Omaha for over forty years; and

WHEREAS, Ozu, Japan, has been a sister city to Hastings for nearly twenty years; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Center opened in Tokyo, Japan, in 2006 to promote business opportunities in Nebraska for Japanese businesses; and

WHEREAS, more than thirty Japanese-owned businesses are located in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Japan is one of Nebraska's largest trading partners, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in Nebraska exports annually to Japan; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 11, 2011, an 8.9 magnitude earthquake off the northeast coast of Japan caused a powerful tsunami that has decimated parts of Japan, has resulted in the destruction of entire towns, raging floods and fires, and has triggered a nuclear emergency; and

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WHEREAS, the crisis in Japan has led to the death of over ten thousand people and the untold suffering of thousands more; and

WHEREAS, the people of Japan have responded to the crisis with exceptional courage and resolve.

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

- 1. That the Legislature sends its condolences to the nation of Japan.
- 2. That the Legislature asks the citizens of Nebraska to keep the citizens of Japan in their thoughts and prayers.
- 3. That the Legislature encourages the citizens of Nebraska to send support to Japan and thanks those individuals, charities, businesses, and organizations that have already provided assistance.
- 4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the government of Japan.