

## ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 371**

Introduced by Kolowski, 31.

WHEREAS, in 2008 Bruce Froendt successfully conceptualized, developed, raised funds for, and built the ALLPLAY Complex, which is a \$1.5 million outdoor sports and recreation facility designed especially for persons with disabilities in Omaha; and

WHEREAS, located in Seymour Smith Park near 72nd and Harrison Street in Omaha, the entire complex features a barrier-free design. The fields and playgrounds have rubberized surfaces to soften falls which makes the complex perfect for people using wheelchairs, walkers, or braces and for those with visual impairments; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Froendt founded the ALLPLAY Miracle Baseball League for children with disabilities with over 235 children with disabilities participating in 2013; and

WHEREAS, volunteers called "buddies," who may be adults, high school youth, or family members, assist Miracle League players during games. As a result, players and buddies often form special bonds through a positive, encouraging, and inspiring environment filled with fun and special moments; and

WHEREAS, the thrill of playing, cheers from family and friends in the stands, and developed friendships make the Miracle League a special place for players, buddies, and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, coordinating with other organizations such as Special Olympics, Children's Hospital, Easter Seals, Cornhusker State Games, local schools, and more, Bruce Froendt expanded the use of the ALLPLAY Complex to include wheelchair softball teams and other events; and

WHEREAS, donors for the complex include the William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation, Peter Kiewit Foundation, Lozier Foundation, city of Omaha, and many other generous supporters who make this incredible experience possible for hundreds of children each year; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Nebraska, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon the dedication of people like Bruce Froendt who use their considerable talents, heart, and resources to help others.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes Bruce Froendt as an outstanding leader and mentor whose vision is that everyone deserves the opportunity to play baseball and have an accessible place to play.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Bruce Froendt.