

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 347**

Introduced by Schumacher, 22; Bloomfield, 17; Brasch, 16.

WHEREAS, Pilger, a small town of 350 people located in Stanton County, is celebrating the progress made to rebuild one year after rare twin tornadoes directly hit and devastated the town on June 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, two lives were lost and several people were injured, three-fourths of the homes were destroyed or damaged leaving more than half of the residents displaced, and the business district, a church, and the school were leveled in the storm; and

WHEREAS, although overwhelmed yet undeterred by the extent of the damage, the people of Pilger immediately launched plans to rebuild their town and began the massive task of cleaning up tons of debris with the help of scores of volunteers from throughout Nebraska and the United States who arrived over the ensuing months to lend a hand; and

WHEREAS, just ten months into the recovery effort, local officials reported that 931 truckloads of debris had been removed, infrastructure repairs were under way, 38 zoning permits were issued with 17 of those for residences, the library was repaired, the co-op rebuilt an office and constructed 7 grain bins, a new restaurant and community center are under construction, groundbreaking is pending for a new church, and blueprints are being drawn to replace the branch bank; and

WHEREAS, Pilger will hold "Pilger RE: A Celebration of REbuilding, REsilience, and REcovery" on June 12 through June 14, 2015, for everyone who supported Pilger over the past year and on June 14, 2015, a ceremony will be held in the town square to dedicate the community flagpole made available through a statewide drive conducted by the American Legion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature commends Pilger for its resiliency and strength after the devastating tornadoes on June 16, 2014.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Village of Pilger.