

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 168

Introduced by Brandt, 32.

WHEREAS, the city of Friend, Nebraska, will celebrate its one hundred fiftieth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Friend is the birthplace and hometown of Ray H. Page, an aviation executive, who helped put Nebraska on the international map as a center of manufacturing, education, and promotion of aviation in the 1920s; and

WHEREAS, Ray and his wife Ethel formed the Lincoln Standard Aircraft Company in 1920 and the Lincoln Flying School shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Standard Aircraft Company constructed one of the first commercial airfields in Lincoln and produced and sold its airplanes around the world, which led to Nebraska becoming the third largest manufacturer of airplanes in the entire United States during the 1920s; and

WHEREAS, to promote the use of air travel, Ray initiated the Page Aerial Pageant, which performed around the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska's exciting aviation environment attracted the young Charles Lindberg to Lincoln where he enrolled in the Lincoln Flying School in 1922; and

WHEREAS, Charles Lindberg later became a preeminent aviation figure when he completed the first solo, nonstop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris in 1927; and

WHEREAS, Charles Lindberg recognized the contributions of Ray Page and the early days of Lincoln aviation to his life in Lindberg's book, "The Spirit of St. Louis," which was made into a movie that showcased Lindberg's early aviation adventures in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, when Ray Page was laid to rest in Andrew Cemetery in Friend, Nebraska, in 1933, two large airplanes circled over the cemetery as a mark of

respect for his aviation legacy; and

WHEREAS, Ray was inducted into the Nebraska Aviation Hall of Fame in 1993 for his outstanding contributions to aviation; and

WHEREAS, Ray and his wife Ethel are recognized for their contributions to aviation history with two bronze markers at the airport in Lincoln.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes Friend, Nebraska, as the hometown of Ray H. Page and celebrates his accomplishments in aviation.
2. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Friend City Council.