

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 270

Introduced by Gragert, 40; Aguilar, 35; Albrecht, 17; Arch, 14; Blood, 3; Bostar, 29; Bostelman, 23; Brandt, 32; Brewer, 43; Briese, 41; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Day, 49; DeBoer, 10; Dorn, 30; Erdman, 47; Flood, 19; Friesen, 34; Geist, 25; Groene, 42; Halloran, 33; Hansen, B., 16; Hansen, M., 26; Hilgers, 21; Hilkemann, 4; Hughes, 44; Hunt, 8; Kolterman, 24; Lathrop, 12; Lindstrom, 18; Linehan, 39; Lowe, 37; McCollister, 20; McDonnell, 5; McKinney, 11; Morfeld, 46; Moser, 22; Murman, 38; Pahls, 31; Pansing Brooks, 28; Sanders, 45; Slama, 1; Stinner, 48; Vargas, 7; Walz, 15; Williams, 36; Wishart, 27; Wayne, 13.

WHEREAS, Merton L. "Cap" Dierks of Ewing, Nebraska, was elected to the Legislature to represent legislative district 40 for a total of twenty years, ranging from 1987 to 2003 and 2007 to 2011; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks was born in O'Neill, Nebraska, on July 2, 1932; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor's degree in animal science and went on to earn his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks served in the United States Air Force from 1954 to 1956; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks operated a family ranch near Ewing and co-owned the O'Neill Veterinary Clinic; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the Legislature, Senator Dierks served as chair for both the Agriculture Committee and the State-Tribal Relations Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks' record as a public servant is filled with many accomplishments and achievements in agriculture, animal welfare, natural resources, economic development, education, and the protection of the unborn which have resulted in a better life for Nebraskans; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks married the love of his life, Gloria Zoeller, on December 27, 1958, and had four children, Jon, Tom, Chris, and Stephanie,

eleven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks passed away on Friday, October 22, 2021, at the age of eighty-nine and was joined by his wife Gloria on Saturday, December 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dierks will be remembered for his integrity, sincerity, and impact on the state.

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

1. That the Legislature offers its condolences to the family of Merton L. "Cap" Dierks and recognizes the dedicated years of service Senator Dierks provided to his community and the state.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Merton L. "Cap" Dierks.