

to build and carry on great traditions; and Whereas, John G. Neihardt is remembered by Nebraskans as a philosopher, an adventurer, a teacher, and an epic poet whose works continue to inspire all people; and Whereas, the works and ideals of John G. Neihardt have been studied and preserved at the John G. Neihardt Center in Bancroft, Nebraska; and Whereas, the Legislature should recognize and salute the seventieth anniversary of the adoption by the United States Congress of the Poet Laureate Resolution. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the members of the Ninety-Second Legislature of Nebraska, First Session: The Legislature recognizes and salutes the seventieth anniversary of the United States Congress naming John G. Neihardt Poet Laureate of Nebraska. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the John G. Neihardt Center in Bancroft, Nebraska." Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Is there anyone who wishes to speak to this resolution? Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President, and good morning. It's a real pleasure to join with Senator Robinson in supporting this resolution, and I know that everybody in this Legislature will, because the Neihardt Foundation and the people who are promoting and keeping the memory of John Neihardt alive for us are so dedicated and it's...I think it's an example to all of us in the State of Nebraska to revere our heroes and keep that spirit alive. And certainly his writings and his...his philosophy is a part of the fabric of our state and of our feelings about our state. So it's just, as I say, a real pleasure to support the resolution and to support the Neihardt Center. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak to this resolution? Seeing none, we will vote...Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, I, too, want to rise in support of the resolution recognizing John Neihardt and the Neihardt Center. One of the things I want to try to, I guess, say briefly is that I was very disappointed when the Director of the Historical Society decided that he wished on his own with his, hopefully, board approval to reduce the funding at the Neihardt Center. And that certainly was beyond anything that has even been proposed; in fact, it was outside anything that the Appropriations Committee had even done. I don't know why the