

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 36

Introduced by Preister, 5

WHEREAS, more than forty years ago, the well-known writer, scientist, and ecologist, Rachel Carson, alerted the United States and the world to the potential hazards of pesticides in her landmark book, *Silent Spring*; and

WHEREAS, despite the warning, more than 6.6 billion pounds of pesticides are spread on the earth annually, and the quantity of pesticides used in the United States has continued to grow over the years and poses a potential threat to all life forms; and

WHEREAS, our children are uniquely vulnerable to chemical pesticides due to their developing physiology and to their habit of frequently putting their hands into their mouths; and

WHEREAS, chemical pesticides applied outdoors are washed into our waterways and our drinking water sources. Several types of cancer, neurological disease, endocrine disorders, and birth defects have all been associated with exposure to common pesticides; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Carson made a profound impact on how we treat the environment and more can still be done to further her legacy; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature would like to invite citizens

throughout Nebraska to observe May 27, the birthdate of Rachel Carson, by refraining from using pesticides on this day and ask the citizens of Nebraska for their cooperation in seeking alternative methods of pest management, including the practice of integrated pest management.

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

1. That May 27, 2007, be designated as Rachel Carson Day.