

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 349

Introduced by Price, 3.

WHEREAS, Jesse Craton Edwards passed away on May 10, 2011, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards was a national pioneering leader of physician assistant programs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards was the cofounder of the Physician Assistant Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards had a distinguished 23-year career in the United States Air Force working as a health care provider and in medical administration; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards served in Washington, D.C., with the Air Force Surgeon General's office where he was a member of a select group of manpower specialists and played a significant role in establishing the first-ever scientific approach to determining the manpower specialty mix for Air Force medical treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards served as President of the Physician Assistant Education Association from 1988 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards developed and implemented the use of the first computerized test item bank specifically intended to assist physician assistant students in self-evaluation efforts and was used by almost all physician assistant programs for the purpose of evaluating student cognitive clinical knowledge; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards served as a consultant to several emerging physician assistant programs and to the ARC-PA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards designed and implemented a distance learning program for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards was a well-known advocate for military physician assistants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards was recognized for his contributions to Air Force physician assistants in the creation of the Jesse Edwards Outstanding Company Grade Physician Assistant of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards is an honorary member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants, the Society of Air Force Physician Assistants, and the Society of Army Physician Assistants; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards received the Outstanding Service Award of the School of Allied Health Professions, the University of Nebraska Medical Center Distinguished Teaching Award, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center Certificate of Outstanding Professional Achievement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Veterans Caucus of the American Academy of Physician Assistants and was made an Admiral in the Great Navy of State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards received the Presidential Award from the Physician Assistant Education Association; and

WHEREAS, Jesse Craton Edwards is survived by his wife, Sharon Lynn Edwards; five children: Bonnie and Greg Shearer, Jesse and Naomi Edwards,

Patty and Tim Wessling, Joyce and Jason Beaty, and Jennifer and James Valentine; twelve grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

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

1. That the Legislature honors Jesse Craton Edwards for his personal accomplishments and service to the physician assistant profession.

2. That the Legislature extends its sympathy and condolences to the family of Jesse Craton Edwards.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Jesse Craton Edwards.