

## ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 463**

Introduced by Wallman, 30.

WHEREAS, the four original pages of the Homestead Act of 1862, signed by President Abraham Lincoln on May 20, 1862, will be on display at the Homestead National Monument of America from April 25, 2012, through May 28, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the United States National Archives and Records Administration considers the Homestead Act of 1862 to be one of the one hundred most important documents in American history; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska has the distinguished honor of being the state in which the first homestead was claimed under the Homestead Act of 1862; and

WHEREAS, the Homestead Act of 1862 influenced the course of United States history through growth of agriculture and industry; and

WHEREAS, the Homestead Act of 1862 provided equality for all in that women, African Americans, and immigrants were allowed to obtain land under the act; and

WHEREAS, the United States gave away two hundred seventy million acres to one and one-half million private individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Homestead Act of 1862 was one of the most enduring pieces of legislation, lasting one hundred twenty-three years, from 1863 to 1986; and

WHEREAS, today it is estimated that as many as ninety-three million people are descendants of homesteaders.

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

1. That the Homestead Act of 1862, which forever changed Nebraska,  
be held in a place of honor.