

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 115

Introduced by Davis, 43; Harms, 48; Schilz, 47.

WHEREAS, the city of Alliance, Nebraska, was incorporated on March 28, 1888, with the arrival of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad tracks; and

WHEREAS, the arrival of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad required the development of lots, and the community of Alliance grew to a population of 840 within two years after incorporation and to 2,200 within eight years after incorporation; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad established its home in Alliance with the building of the depot at the end of Box Butte Avenue, which became a focus of activity for the community; and

WHEREAS, the rural area of Alliance also developed with expanded homesteading through the Kinkaid Act, which was passed by the United States Congress creating a strong agricultural base for the community; and

WHEREAS, Alliance continued to be progressive with the establishment of the first paving district which bricked Box Butte Avenue and the downtown area. Alliance also became the first city in Nebraska to adopt the city manager form of government in 1921; and

WHEREAS, during the Great Depression in the early 1930s, Alliance created a beautiful parks system under the Work Projects Administration, which remains to this day a source of beauty and pride for the community; and

WHEREAS, with the advent of World War II, Alliance experienced explosive growth with the development of a new airport for an Army air base that is now the home of the Alliance Municipal Airport, which provides both commercial and private air service and will host the 2013 State Fly-in event on August 17, 2013; and

WHEREAS, industry began evolving in the early 1960s with the creation of an industrial park, which continues to be the home of many commercial businesses today; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s four major railroads merged into the new Burlington Northern Railroad, and Alliance was designed as a divisional headquarters for the new railroad, resulting in another period of rapid population growth, residential development, and "bedroom" industries; and

WHEREAS, Alliance became nationally known as the "Home of Carhenge" with the fanciful recreation of Stonehenge as a tourist attraction in the 1990s; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance Public School system constructed a state of the art Performing Arts Center in 2011 to promote the value of the arts in the community; and

WHEREAS, the community of Alliance is now undertaking the challenge of enhancing the quality and availability of health services to its citizens with a major expansion of Box Butte General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, the adopted community vision for Alliance is "Building the Best Hometown in America"; and

WHEREAS, the community of Alliance is celebrating 125 years of "Building the Best Hometown in America" in 2013.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates the city of Alliance, Nebraska, on 125 years of progress.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the mayor of Alliance, Fred Feldges, to the city manager of Alliance, J. D. Cox, and to the curator of the Knight Museum and Sandhills Center and chairperson of the 125th Anniversary Celebration of Alliance, Becci Thomas.