

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 55

Introduced by Krist, 10; Adams, 24; Ashford, 20; Avery, 28; Bloomfield, 17; Bolz, 29; Brasch, 16; Campbell, 25; Carlson, 38; Christensen, 44; Coash, 27; Conrad, 46; Cook, 13; Crawford, 45; Davis, 43; Dubas, 34; Gloor, 35; Haar, 21; Hadley, 37; Hansen, 42; Harms, 48; Harr, 8; Howard, 9; Janssen, 15; Johnson, 23; Karpisek, 32; Kintner, 2; Kolowski, 31; Lathrop, 12; McCoy, 39; McGill, 26; Mello, 5; Murante, 49; Nelson, 6; Nordquist, 7; Pirsch, 4; Price, 3; Scheer, 19; Schilz, 47; Schumacher, 22; Seiler, 33; Smith, 14; Sullivan, 41; Wallman, 30; Watermeier, 1; Wightman, 36.

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne was born February 23, 1937, in Hastings, Nebraska. He was a star athlete at Hastings High School, excelling in football, basketball, and track and field. For all of his success, he was named the Nebraska High School Athlete of the Year in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne then attended Hastings College where he played both football and basketball. He was named the Nebraska College Athlete of the Year in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne graduated from Hastings College in 1959 with a bachelor of arts in history. He later attended the University of Nebraska and earned a master of arts in educational psychology in 1963 and a doctor of philosophy in educational psychology in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne joined the football coaching staff at the University of Nebraska in 1964 and served as an offensive assistant coach and as the offensive coordinator before taking over as head coach in 1973. He served as head coach for twenty-five years, winning the national championship three times. For his incredible success, Tom Osborne was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne continued to serve the State of Nebraska after leaving the coaching profession. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 2000 and served for six years, representing Nebraska's third district; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne was named the athletic director of the University of Nebraska in 2007. During his tenure as athletic director, he provided inspired and steady leadership, including securing the University of Nebraska's membership in the Big Ten Conference. He retired from his position as athletic director effective January 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Tom Osborne, in addition to his professional success and public service, has also given back to his community through his TeamMates Mentoring Program, which he and his wife, Nancy, founded in 1991. The goal of the TeamMates Mentoring Program is to see youth graduate from high school and pursue a postsecondary education. The program currently provides a mentor for over five thousand youth across Nebraska and Iowa.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates Tom Osborne on his many accomplishments over his outstanding career.

2. That the Legislature thanks Tom Osborne for his lifelong contributions to the State of Nebraska.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Tom Osborne.