

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 347

Introduced by Brasch, 16; Albrecht, 17; Baker, 30; Bolz, 29; Bostelman, 23; Brewer, 43; Briese, 41; Clements, 2; Crawford, 45; Ebke, 32; Erdman, 47; Friesen, 34; Geist, 25; Groene, 42; Halloran, 33; Hansen, 26; Harr, 8; Hilgers, 21; Hilkemann, 4; Howard, 9; Hughes, 44; Kolowski, 31; Kolterman, 24; Krist, 10; Kuehn, 38; Larson, 40; Lindstrom, 18; Linehan, 39; Lowe, 37; McCollister, 20; McDonnell, 5; Morfeld, 46; Murante, 49; Pansing Brooks, 28; Quick, 35; Riepe, 12; Scheer, 19; Schumacher, 22; Smith, 14; Stinner, 48; Thibodeau, 6; Vargas, 7; Walz, 15; Watermeier, 1; Wayne, 13; Williams, 36; Wishart, 27.

WHEREAS, Charles (Charley) Thone was elected to represent the 1st District of Nebraska in the United States House of Representatives in 1970, and after serving four terms in the House, he was elected Governor of Nebraska in 1978; and

WHEREAS, Charley Thone grew up on a farm near Hartington, served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Charley Thone began his career as a Deputy Secretary of State, moving on to become an Assistant Attorney General and Assistant United States Attorney, and then went to work in the office of U.S. Senator Roman Hruska before taking on the role of chairman of the Nebraska Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, in addition to championing the interests of farmers and ranchers, Congressman Thone participated in the House Select Committee on Assassinations, where he helped to investigate the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and was described by CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite as "the conscience of the committee" for insisting on open meetings; and

WHEREAS, while a national recession dominated his time in office, Governor Thone remained focused on education, agricultural marketing, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, Charley Thone embraced private life at the end of his service as Governor, practicing law in Lincoln and engaging in the life of his community. As a private citizen, he gained bipartisan support for establishing the

Nebraska Court of Appeals and pushed to have state lottery funds redirected to the Nebraska State Fair; and

WHEREAS, Charley Thone met Ruth (Ruthie) Raymond during an interview while she was the editor of the University of Nebraska's student newspaper in 1952. They were married on August 16, 1953, and had three daughters; and

WHEREAS, Charley Thone passed away on Wednesday, March 7, 2018, at the age of 94.

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

1. That the Legislature honors Charley Thone for his service to his state and to his country.
2. That the Legislature extends deep sympathy to former First Lady Ruth Thone and the family of Charley Thone.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Charley Thone.