

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 61

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Watermeier, 1.

WHEREAS, Thomas Lee Kaspar, AIA, began his architectural preservation career at the Nebraska State Capitol in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar worked with the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature in 1980 to establish the Capitol Original Furniture Collection through the passage of LB 885; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar oversaw the return to service of hundreds of pieces of original furniture purchased during the 1922-1932 construction of the Capitol, thus establishing the Nebraska Capitol Collections; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar established and maintained the Capitol Original Furniture Inventory as part of the Nebraska Capitol Collections and worked with the Capitol's carpentry staff to repair and restore Capitol original furniture and make it available for use by the Legislature and other occupants of the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar was instrumental in developing a state-of-the-art archive as an important part of the Nebraska Capitol Collections, which houses thousands of documents, including drawings and correspondence associated with the original construction of the Capitol. Preservation architects rely on the archive to provide important documentation supporting the accurate restoration of the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar oversaw the restoration of the East Chamber, renamed the Warner Legislative Chamber, as it was being renovated to support the work of the Warner Institute for Education in Democracy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar led the team which cleaned and restored the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber and Senators' Lounge, bringing the Chamber and Lounge back to their original condition and enhancing their beauty and

function; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kaspar has overseen the restoration of numerous legislative offices and chambers, including the restoration of the original office of the Speaker of the House.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes the lifetime dedication to conservation and restoration of Mr. Thomas Lee Kaspar, which greatly enhanced the dignity of the environment in which the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature works.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Mr. Thomas Lee Kaspar.