

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 29**

Introduced by Scheer, 19.

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2019, the NEBRASKAland Foundation will present the Distinguished NEBRASKAlander Award, recognizing Nebraskans who have distinguished themselves and the state, to Dr. Sara Brandes Crook at the annual Statehood Day Dinner held in the Nebraska State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook grew up on a Nebraska farm, attended a country church and a one-room school where she developed a deep appreciation for Nebraska and its people; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and has taught Nebraska history and political science since 1984 as a professor at Peru State College, Nebraska's first college; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook has performed her program, "Nebraska's Winding Road to Statehood: In the Footsteps of a Female Settler", over 50 times as part of the Humanities Nebraska Speaker's Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook co-founded the Trails and Tales program, a history course for undergraduate and graduate students in education that includes travel to visit historic Nebraska sites; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook is the founder of the District History Day program at Peru State College and has served as the program's director for 33 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook is an active member in the Nebraska City community and on the campus of Peru State College making local foundations, boards, and civic organizations a priority; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook served six years on the Nebraska State Historical Society Board of Directors, two of those years as President, and served six years on the Board for Humanities Nebraska, including one year as Chair; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook has served on the Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission

since 2009 and is currently working to place a Willa Cather statue at the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook was elected chair of the Nebraska Sesquicentennial Commission that organized and directed the year-long celebration of Nebraska's 150th anniversary of statehood in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook has received several honors including the P.E.O. Scholar Award, the Teaching Excellence Award from Peru State College, the Teaching Excellence Award from the Nebraska State College system, the 2002-2004 Honors Chair in the Humanities, and Addison Sheldon Memorial Award from the Nebraska State Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Crook has lived on a farm in Otoe County with her husband John for the last 34 years. They have two daughters, two sons-in-law, and one granddaughter.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates Dr. Sara Brandes Crook as a recipient of the Distinguished NEBRASKALander Award and extends its appreciation for her service to the State of Nebraska.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Sara Brandes Crook.