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SENATE CHAMBER

DAVID B. HALEY
SENATOR
DISTRICT 4
WYANDOTTE COUNTY

BEFORE THE HOUSE VISION 20/20 COMMITTEE
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 443 (2016)
AN ACT DECLARING THE CAGE ELEVATOR IN THE KANSAS STATE CAPITOL BUILDING AS
THE OFFICIAL CAGE ELEVATOR IN THE STATE OF KANSAS
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 9:00 AM

Chairman Campbell; Vice-Chairman Sloan; Ranking Member Curtis AND Members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking time to hear this bill regarding the designation and continued preservation of a much treasured landmark in this Statehouse. I offer written testimony today in SUPPORT of SB 443 which was co-sponsored by ALL 40 members of the Senate; placed on the CONSENT Calendar and unanimously affirmed.

Whether it is the first year or fortieth in the Legislature, appreciation of the uniqueness of the cage elevator is the "peanut" of SB 443 which insures that the cage elevator is maintained and remains operational for the working delight of potentially generations to come.

My personal earliest remembrance (now over half a century ago) of this magnificent Capitol building is riding in the cage elevator while visiting my late father, former Senator George Haley here; at his other office. How many countless other fond memories of the Statehouse has this singular experience inspired for thousands since 1923 when the elevator was first installed?

While visiting an historic building last year in Washington, D.C., an exhibit offered the touring of a non-functioning (save the operational door) cage elevator similar to the still functioning one we have here today. It dawned on me that the Resolution sponsored by in 1976, forty years ago exactly and still pretty much relevant to this day, as but a Resolution has no force and effect in maintaining, and keeping fully operational, our beloved State treasure. By placing the long standing observation and intent of many Legislatures in statute, we will assure continued contemplation and wonder; preserve our history and further inspire our future.

Given the winding down of the 2016 Session, please consider the immediate passage, perhaps to the CONSENT Calendar, of SB 443 at your earliest opportunity.

Thank you again and should you have any questions, please feel free to call or to email me at any time.

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