

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1848

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Maisie DeVore.

WHEREAS, Maisie DeVore, 83, of Eskridge has been called “Amazing Maisie” but “Unbelievable Maisie” might be more appropriate. For 30 years she has raised money to build a swimming pool for her town of 530 inhabitants. She collected aluminum cans and scrap metal to sell to recycling plants, sold homemade jam and knitted afghans for raffles. Over the years she has collected more than \$100,000. Her dream has become a reality with a state grant of \$73,000 permitting the town to construct the pool; and

WHEREAS, The local school board donated land for the pool adjacent to the town’s elementary school, which location will allow Ms. DeVore to look out of her picture window to watch the activity at the pool. On March 20, 2001, Ms. DeVore broke ground for the pool by turning over the first two spadefuls of dirt—an action which caused her great-grandson to wonder why his great-grandmother did not dig the entire pool with her golden ceremonial shovel; and

WHEREAS, The pool was finished in time for the 2001 swimming season. Eight hundred people were present for the grand opening on July 14, which was declared Maisie DeVore Day in Eskridge. Following a parade through town, there was a dedication ceremony at the pool. Ms. DeVore used gold-painted scissors to cut the dedicatory ribbon. Earlier local youth had proposed that Ms. DeVore be given a bikini to wear so she could be the first one in the water. While that did not transpire, she was the first to step into the water; and

WHEREAS, Maisie DeVore’s vision of a swimming pool for her home town was supported with 30 years of dedicated effort on her part, a task which was not supported by her neighbors, but such lack of support did not deter her from her vision; and

WHEREAS, On March 19, Maisie DeVore was one of five Kansans who received the Jefferson Award, given by the American Institute for Public Service, which honors people who work to improve their communities at local and national levels and has been selected by the American Institute for Public Service to represent northeast Kansas in the national Jefferson Awards ceremony June 17 to 19. She will compete with more than 80 other regional award winners for the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award for Greatest Public Service Benefiting Local Communities. She will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., where the ceremony will be conducted. She also will receive a special invitation to the White House and will attend a ceremony and reception at the United States Supreme Court. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Maisie DeVore for 30 years of dedicated service to her community, which efforts have enabled Eskridge to have a swimming pool to be enjoyed by today’s residents as well as those of tomorrow, and for the example of dedication and perseverance which she has set to be emulated by all citizens of the city of Eskridge and the state of Kansas; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Maisie DeVore, P.O. Box 393, Eskridge, Kansas 66423, and Rex Kraus, Mayor, City of Eskridge, 110 S. Main, Eskridge, Kansas 66423.

Senate Resolution No. 1848 was sponsored by Senator Jim Barnett.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.