

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1895

A RESOLUTION commemorating the quincentenary of the birth of Andreas Palladio
who inspired the design of the Kansas Capitol.

WHEREAS, November 30, 2008 was the 500th anniversary of the birth of Andreas Palladio and this anniversary year is being celebrated around the world; and

WHEREAS, The design of the Kansas State Capitol, based on Palladio's Villa Rotonda, began in 1566 with a dome and four symmetrical porticos. Furthermore, the architectural design of the United States Capitol, by physician William Thornton, was selected by Thomas Jefferson and George Washington because of its Palladian design; and

WHEREAS, Andreas Palladio, who began as a poor stone mason who studied Vitruvius and ancient buildings and wrote the *I Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, which Thomas Jefferson called his "bible" and became the world's most influential architect, emphasizing symmetry, proportion, the use of classical orders and the idea of blending landscape with architecture; and

WHEREAS, Many of Palladio's buildings, including Villa Rotonda, Villa Poiana, Villa Emo, Villa Barbaro, La Malcontenta, and Church of Il Redentore, are honored as United Nations World Heritage Sites; and

WHEREAS, Palladio inspired generations of architects such as Inigo Jones, Thomas Jefferson, Frank Lloyd Wright, Christopher Wren, Le Corbusier and I.M. Pei and informed the design of many of the world's iconic buildings including the U.S. Capitol, the White House, Montecello, Buckingham Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court and Kansas' notable buildings including the Kansas State Capitol, the Cathedral of the Plains, Villa NeoPoiana, the University of Kansas' Strong Hall and the home of Alf Landon; and

WHEREAS, Palladio's influence can be seen in the everyday homes of all Kansans in their front porches, columns and pediments, the symmetry and landscaping that blends their home with the surrounding countryside and their practical functionality in design; and

WHEREAS, Palladio's harmonic proportions, use of classical orders and symmetry inspired Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and our founding fathers as the architectural embodiment of our young democracy; and

WHEREAS, In this very Senate chamber, Palladio's vision sets the tone for our deliberations and the Palladian loggias on both sides of this chamber emphasize harmony and are often the site for some of our more substantive service for Kansas: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we honor Palladio on his quincentenary and that we encourage all Kansans to recognize their profound Palladian heritage in Kansas and our American democracy; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Jeffrey Colyer; Barry Gries, the Architect of the State House; William Groth, the former Architect of the State House; Jeffrey Russell, Director of Legislative Services; Vance Kelley, Treanor Architects Consulting; the Kansas Historical Society; the University of Kansas School of Architecture; the Center for Palladian Studies in America; the Centro Internazionale de Studi di Architettura Andrea Palladio, Vicenza; the Royal Institute of British Architects; the curators and custodians of Montecello, Rotunda, Poiana and Palladio's patrimony; and the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, the Ambassador of Italy.

Senate Resolution No. 1895 was sponsored by Senator Jeffrey Colyer.

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.