

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1844

A Resolution congratulating and commending Joe Hastings and Michael Wilhoite.

WHEREAS, Joe Hastings, of Wichita, Kansas (Bishop Carroll High School), earned All-MIAA honors as a senior wide receiver while playing football for Coach Craig Schurig at Washburn University and led the MIAA in receiving yards with 1,546 while recording 87 receptions, both single season records at Washburn. Joe averaged 128.8 yards per contest and was second in the conference in receptions per game at 7.3. He was fifth in the MIAA in scoring at 7.6 points per game; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, Joe Hastings finished his career at second in the country in receiving yards per game and tied for 20th in receptions per game. He tied a Washburn single-game record with four touchdown receptions against Nebraska-Omaha while playing only the first half of the game. Joe Hastings was a third team Don Hansen Football Gazette All-American and also took part in the Cactus Bowl Division II All-Star game pulling in a big touchdown pass. He accounted for 1,575 all-purpose yards in his final season averaging 131.2 per game. He had eight 100-yard receiving games including a career-high 223 yards and 10 receptions against Midwestern State in the 2010 Kanza Bowl; and

WHEREAS, Michael Wilhoite, of Topeka, Kansas (Highland Park High School), also earned All-MIAA honors as a senior linebacker at Washburn University after recording 81 tackles in one season. He finished his Washburn career with over 200 total tackles, which ranked him high in the Washburn record book. He finished his career at Washburn with 109 solo stops. Following his Washburn career, Michael signed with the Omaha Nighthawks, a professional team in the UFL (United Football League); and

WHEREAS, Joe and Michael both suffered injuries during their senior seasons at Washburn, but both overcame many adversities and helped lead the Washburn Ichabods to an 8-4 record and Kanza Bowl victory to finish out their Washburn careers. Through their talent, character and work ethic, both Joe Hastings and Michael Wilhoite were signed to the San Francisco 49ers football team; and

WHEREAS, It is unheard of for two Kansans who were teammates at a Kansas Division II school to be signed to an NFL team, let alone the same NFL team. Both of these young men had the goal of playing in the NFL, and both of them achieved this goal. During Joe and Michael's rookie season, the 49ers made it to the NFC Championship, just one game away from playing in the Super Bowl: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Joe Hastings and Michael Wilhoite for their roles on the San Francisco 49ers team and for all of their football success thus far, and wish them much more success in future endeavors. We also thank them for serving as role models to our Kansas youth; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send four enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Love.

Senate Resolution No. 1844 was sponsored by Senator Garrett Love.

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.