

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1884

A RESOLUTION in memory of John "Jack" Francis Steineger, Jr.

WHEREAS, John "Jack" Francis Steineger, Jr., a third generation resident and lifelong supporter of Wyandotte County, died May 1, 2012, at age 87; and

WHEREAS, Jack served as a state senator from Wyandotte County from 1964 to 1992, serving as Senate Minority Leader from 1976 to 1988. He helped to pass the first state air pollution law and establish the Tallgrass Prairie as a natural preserve. He was named Conservation Legislator of the Year by the Kansas Wildlife Federation in 1974 and was honored with a 1975 Air Conservation Award by the Kansas Wildlife Federation for "outstanding contributions to the wise use and management of the nation's natural resources." He was selected Outstanding State Senator by the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University in 1972, and in 1982, he received a Legislative Improvement Award from the Ford Foundation; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, Jack served as Vern Miller's running mate in his campaign for Governor on the Democratic Party ticket. The duo narrowly lost the election to the Republican Party ticket of Robert Bennett and Shelby Smith by a margin of only 3,600 votes; and

WHEREAS, Jack graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1942 and attended the University of Southern California in 1942-1943, but his education was interrupted by World War II. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1943 and was commissioned ensign by the end of his service in 1946. He continued his service in the United States Naval Reserve for many years. After the war, he enrolled at the University of Kansas and joined the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He earned a Bachelor's degree and a Doctor of Laws in 1949. He was a lifelong supporter of KU; and

WHEREAS, In 1949, Jack married Margaret Ruth Leisy of Dallas. They moved to Washington D.C. where Jack served in the office of the U.S. Department of Labor. He was a member of the U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Corps from 1950 to 1958, serving as a cultural attaché in Germany and later Iraq. He returned to Wyandotte County in 1957 and joined the Finigian, Poizner and Tucker law firm before opening his own law office, Steineger and Reid, in 1963. He served as a Juvenile Court Judge in 1958 and Wyandotte County Chief Prosecutor in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Jack served on the boards of many civic organizations, including as president of People-to-People and the Kansas City Ballet Association. He served on the Council of State Governments Intergovernmental Relations Committee, the Kansas Arts Commission, the Kiwanis Youth Committee, the Boy Scout Board and the American Royal Association; and

WHEREAS, Jack was an avid skier, tennis player and sailor. He sailed extensively in the Caribbean and he also sailed in the Mediterranean and on the eastern seaboard. He enjoyed gardening and especially loved the springtime, when Wyandotte County flowers were in bloom; and

WHEREAS, Jack leaves his wife, Margaret, of 62 years, sons John and Senator Chris Steineger, daughters Cynthia Steineger Blair and Melissa, grandchild Kisha and cousins Joseph Edward Steineger, Jr., Gary Clark Wear and Roger Ramsel: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we honor the life of John Francis Steineger, Jr., and the public service he gave to his country, his state and his county, and extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Hensley.

Senate Resolution No. 1884 was sponsored by Senator Anthony Hensley.

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

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*