

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. ____

By Senators Hensley, Morris, Emler, Abrams, Apple, Bruce, Brungardt, Donovan, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holland, Huntington, Kelly, Kelsey, King, Kultala, Longbine, Love, Lynn, Marshall, Masterson, McGinn, Merrick, Olson, Ostmeyer, Owens, Petersen, Pilcher-Cook, Pyle, Reitz, Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil and Wagle

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Senator Janis K. Lee on her years of service in the Kansas legislature.

WHEREAS, Senator Janis Lee, of Kensington, is leaving the Kansas legislature after dedicating 23 years of service to the people of Kansas as a member of the Kansas Senate. She will continue to serve the state as the chief hearing officer for the Kansas State Court of Tax Appeals; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee was elected to the Kansas Senate in 1988, after serving 10 years on the Kensington school board. She represented the Senate's 36th district, which includes Ellis, Hodgeman, Mitchell, Osborne, Pawnee, Phillips, Rush, Russell and Smith counties, as well as part of Jewell County; and

WHEREAS, During her time in the Kansas Senate, Senator Lee served as the Assistant Democratic Leader, Democratic Caucus Chairperson, and was a member of the committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources, Financial Institutions and Insurance, Governmental Organization, Education, Elections, Local Government, Public Health and Welfare, and Ways and Means. She was also the Ranking Minority Member on the Assessment and Taxation Committee, the Education Committee, and the Utilities Committee; and

WHEREAS, When she served as the ranking Democrat on the Senate Education Committee in the special session of 2005 and the regular session of 2006, Senator Lee was instrumental in the passage of a three-year school finance plan that guaranteed rural schools received their fair share of funding. She was a true champion for rural school districts and rural property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee was a strong voice for improving the quality of life in rural communities in Kansas. She was born and raised on her family's farm, so she understands the importance of agriculture to the state. She still lives just a few miles away from her childhood home, where she and her husband, Lyn, operate a ranching and farming business. She has also served as a member ex-officio of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Board; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee is an effective and hard-working public servant whose gracious leadership will be missed by her colleagues and the people she proudly serves; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee and her husband, Lyn, have three sons, David, Brian and Daniel:
Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we commend Senator Janis K. Lee for her many years of service to the people of the 36th district and the State of Kansas and extend our best wishes for her continued success and happiness; and

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