

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1857

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Robert P. Sigman.

WHEREAS, After 47 years in the newspaper business, Robert P. (Bob) Sigman retired December 31, 2000, as the senior member of the Kansas City Star's editorial board; and

WHEREAS, Bob Sigman started his newspaper career working for the Kansas City Daily Kansan but was hired by the Kansas City Star after the Missouri paper had had enough of Bob's scooping them from his position across the river in Kansas City, Kansas. He went on to cover politics, government and the courts in both Missouri and Kansas. He was an editorial writer for almost 40 years, and served as a member of the Kansas City Star's editorial board since 1971; and

WHEREAS, Bob Sigman became well-known as a crusader for justice, once successfully persuading a Missouri governor to pardon a mentally retarded man who had been wrongfully convicted of murder. He was an expert on the legal justice system from law enforcement and corrections to judges and the nonpartisan court plan in Missouri. He brought about many changes in open meetings and ethics reforms in both Kansas and Missouri by his persistent crusades against corruption and inappropriate behavior. As an editorial writer, he was also advocating for better representation for the people whose government their representatives were supposed to serve; and

WHEREAS, Bob Sigman had a superb memory that became a highly valuable institutional resource at the Star. He had the ability to get to the heart of the issue at hand with a few well phrased questions. He thoroughly enjoyed his work, his mentoring to his colleagues was greatly appreciated and his writing is described as a model for clarity, force and succinctness; and

WHEREAS, Bob Sigman's interest in public affairs was shaped at any early age. His mother had served on the local school board and his father on the city council. He knew he wanted to work for a newspaper when he was 10 years old. A demanding Latin teacher at the University of Kansas set him straight on his life's journey when she impressed on him the value of learning to prepare himself for his life's work; as a result he turned in his equipment as a member of the freshman basketball team the next week: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Robert P. Sigman upon completion of a long and rewarding career in journalism; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Robert P. Sigman, c/o The Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64108.

Senate Resolution No. 1857 was sponsored by Senator David Adkins.

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.*