

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1831

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Gene Merry.

WHEREAS, Gene Merry of Burlington has retired after 20 years of public service—12 years as a Coffey County commissioner, including eight years as the chairman of the Coffey County Commission, and eight years on the Burlington City Council, including two terms as mayor; and

WHEREAS, Merry, a self-proclaimed “fixer,” is perhaps best known for his leadership and commitment to cleaning up the Burlington community, especially downtown. As a result of Merry’s passion to keep the downtown area alive, he could often be seen walking through downtown, picking up trash, and mowing patches of grass where other people did not want to mow; and

WHEREAS, Viewed by many in the community as forward-thinking, Merry is an advocate for nuclear power and a strong proponent of the Wolf Creek Generating Station. Merry also had the vision to purchase and save the old Carnegie Library, widely considered one of Burlington’s important historical buildings; and

WHEREAS, Merry, who preferred to focus on the day-to-day work and taking care of his constituents’ problems rather than to campaign, narrowly survived his latest re-election in 2002. Undaunted by the fact that a “clean-up-the-town campaign” might not please everyone, Merry stuck to his commitment of serving the greater good: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Gene Merry for his long and dedicated career in public office and wish him all the best with his business and personal interests; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Derek Schmidt for presentation to Gene Merry.

Senate Resolution No. 1831 was sponsored by Senator Derek Schmidt.

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.*