

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1867

A RESOLUTION honoring the memory and legacy of Lamar Hunt, and recognizing his indelible imprint upon Kansas and the world through his creative vision and entrepreneurial spirit.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt was born in El Dorado, Arkansas on August 2, 1932. A prep school quarterback, he later played three years of Varsity Football at Southern Methodist University and earned a degree in Geology in 1956.

WHEREAS, For nearly 50 years, Lamar Hunt was a guiding force in professional football. Denied the Dallas franchise by the National Football League in 1959, Hunt, with eight other team owners affectionately known as “The Foolish Club,” founded the American Football League. Hunt’s team, the Texans, won the 1962 AFL Championship. He moved the Texans to Kansas City in 1963 and renamed them the Kansas City Chiefs.

WHEREAS, In the 1960’s, Lamar Hunt was directly involved in plans for Arrowhead Stadium, which opened in 1972 as the home of the Chiefs.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt played a key role in the 1966 AFL-NFL merger. He is credited with coining the term: “Super Bowl”. The Kansas City Chiefs won the 1966 AFL Championship — and played in the first Super Bowl — against the Green Bay Packers, and defeated the Minnesota Vikings in 1969’s Super Bowl IV.

WHEREAS, The American Football Conference championship trophy, named for Lamar Hunt, was first presented to the Miami Dolphins in 1984.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt was also instrumental in developing the North American Soccer League, World Championship Tennis and Major League Soccer. The Hunt family operated the Kansas City Wizards Soccer franchise. The Wizards began playing at Arrowhead Stadium in 1996 and won the 2000 Major League Soccer Cup. Hunt was a founding investor of the six-time World Champion Chicago Bulls.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt was inducted into the Halls of Fame of six different sports: Kansas City Chiefs (1970), Pro Football (1972), United States Soccer (1982), Texas (1984), International Tennis (1993) and Missouri (1995). He earned a Lifetime Achievement Award from the U.S. Soccer Foundation in 2005.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt’s varied business ventures have been equally successful. He was named to the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 1997 and the Kansas City Business Hall of Fame in 2004. His subterranean industrial park, SubTropolis, is the world’s largest underground business complex. Hunt Midwest Enterprises, Inc. oversees diverse business interests including limestone mining and real estate development.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt was the creative force behind Kansas City’s Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun theme parks. He named many of the rides, and developed the parks’ landscaping, thanks to a lifelong love of nature fostered by his mother.

WHEREAS, Lamar Hunt passed away in Dallas, Texas on December 13, 2006, at the age of 74. He is survived by his wife Norma, four children — Lamar, Jr., Sharron Munson, Clark and Daniel — and 14 grandchildren: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we express our heartfelt gratitude to Lamar Hunt for his life of civic service and for the benefits reaped by those fortunate enough to be touched by the wide reach of his many successful enterprises; and we recognize his invaluable contributions to American sports and business — contributions which have changed the ways we live and play; and we are humbled by his lofty example of how one good man who believes in his dreams can change the face of the nation and the world; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide 15 enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Dennis Wilson for distribution to the Hunt family and to the Chiefs organization.

Senate Resolution No. 1867 was sponsored by Senators Dennis Wilson and 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.*