

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6026

A RESOLUTION honoring Arden K. Ensley.

WHEREAS, Arden K. Ensley served as Revisor of Statutes from 1979 to 1989, and served more than 38 years in the Office of Revisor of Statutes, and provided invaluable and dedicated service to the Kansas Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley was born on September 25, 1927, the son of Daniel D. and Sarah Henderson Ensley. He grew up in Columbus and Hepler, Kansas, where he graduated from high school in 1945; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley served in the United States Army and spent time as part of the occupation forces in Germany and Hungary following World War II; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University in 1951, and a law degree from Washburn University Law School in 1954; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley married Rita Knisel on October 2, 1954, in Topeka. They were blessed with four children and six grandchildren. Arden was a beloved husband, father and grandfather, and deeply loved his family; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley's long-standing interest in the area of local government law began when he took a job with the League of Kansas Municipalities in 1956. As a staff attorney and later as general counsel for the League, he was deeply involved in the drafting of the city Home Rule Amendment to the Kansas Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley began working in the Office of Revisor of Statutes in 1965 on a full-time basis as a Second Assistant Revisor, was appointed First Assistant Revisor in 1974 and was appointed Revisor of Statutes by the Legislative Coordinating Council on July 18, 1979; and

WHEREAS, As Revisor of Statutes, Arden Ensley provided leadership to his staff to enable them to provide to the Legislature of the State of Kansas the highest quality bill drafting services and legal consultation. His legal opinions were well respected and relied on by legislative members because of his consistent, accurate and nonpartisan approach to meeting needs of this institution; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley was responsible for editing the Kansas Statutes Annotated for many years, and is remembered for his conscientious attention to details and the high standards he maintained in the preparation and publication of the laws of the State of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, attorneys in the Office of Revisor of Statutes developed their skills under his tutelage and owe their success and legal development to his legal and drafting expertise and his willingness to share his knowledge and experience with those he supervised; and

WHEREAS, Everyone who had contact with Arden Ensley appreciated his exceptional work ethic, patience, compassion, leadership, calmness, fairness, optimism and sense of humor but most of all his willingness to genuinely listen to anyone who needed to talk with him whether it was of a professional or personal nature; and

WHEREAS, Arden Ensley possessed significant legal knowledge and expertise in virtually all areas of law in which the Office of Revisor of Statutes provided drafting and legal services but was most recognized for his incomparable knowledge and command of the Constitution of the State of Kansas as the preeminent resource on that document in the Statehouse; and

WHEREAS, Although Arden K. Ensley is not physically present in the Statehouse, his influence and legacy remain ever present as a source of guidance for all: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we honor Arden K. Ensley for his many years of dedicated service to the Office of Revisor of Statutes, the Kansas Legislature and the State of Kansas.

House Resolution No. 6026 was sponsored by Representatives Melvin Neufeld and Dennis McKinney.

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

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*