

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 41—Senators Jacobsen, Amodei, Care, Carlton, Coffin, James, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O’Connell, O’Donnell, Porter, Raggio, Rawson, Rhoads, Schneider, Shaffer, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Hettrick, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Bache, Beers, Berman, Brower, Buckley, Carpenter, Cegavske, Chowning, Claborn, Collins, de Braga, Dini, Evans, Freeman, Gibbons, Giunchigliani, Goldwater, Gustavson, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Segerblom, Thomas, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing prominent Nevada rancher Matthew C. Benson.

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature were deeply saddened by the passing of Matthew C. Benson on February 9, 1998; and

WHEREAS, Matthew C. Benson was born in Ely, Nevada, on April 27, 1922, and graduated from White Pine County High School in 1940; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, Matt Benson served as a United States Navy Communications Officer in the South Pacific Amphibious Forces, and it was during this time of service that Matt Benson married Peggy Joyce Sorenson on a 5-day leave in June 1944; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Utah State Agricultural College with a Bachelor of Science degree in range management, Matt Benson worked for 3 years with the United States Soil Conservation Service as a range conservationist; and

WHEREAS, Matt Benson was hired as assistant manager and then as manager of the Marble Ranches in Elko County from 1954 to 1964, followed by 24 years as manager of the Heritage Ranch in Gardnerville which retained him as a consultant after his retirement in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Matt Benson was honored as Man of the Year for Carson Valley Days in 1986 and served as Carson Valley Days Grand Marshal in 1987; and

WHEREAS, An active member of the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association and the National Cattlemen’s Association for 30 years, Matt Benson was honored as Cattleman of the Year in 1990; and

WHEREAS, Matt Benson’s knowledge of ranching and agriculture was a tremendous asset to the community as he gave his time and energy as a member of the Douglas County Farm Bureau and the Eureka County Farm Bureau, both of which he also served as president, the Heil Commission for Wild Horse Preservation, the University of Nevada Agricultural College Advisory Committee and various other committees and organizations; and

WHEREAS, To many who knew him, Matt Benson typified the model of a Nevada cowboy and rancher who loved sharing his experiences by organizing trail rides and hayrides, during which he would inevitably be part of a sing-along that always included, at his request, the Nevada state song, "Home Means Nevada"; and

WHEREAS, Matt Benson is survived by his wife, Peggy, his children, Ken Benson of Baker, Oregon, Julie Ann Ward of Sheridan, Montana, Nancy Alley of Gardnerville, his brother, Jim Benson of Ely and eight grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada Legislature express their deepest sympathy to the family of Matthew C. Benson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Matt Benson will be remembered for the many ways he shared his love for and knowledge of ranching as well as for the laughter and fun he brought into the lives of those who knew him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to his wife, Peggy, and his children, Ken, Nancy and Julie.

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