

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43—SENATORS RAGGIO, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O’CONNELL, O’DONNELL, PORTER, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

MAY 10, 1999

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN DINI, ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY, BACHE, BEERS, BERMAN, BROWER, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CEGAVSKE, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, DE BRAGA, EVANS, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOLDWATER, GUSTAVSON, HETTRICK, HUMKE, KOIVISTO, LEE, LESLIE, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, NEIGHBORS, NOLAN, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PARNELL, PERKINS, PRICE, SEGERBLUM, THOMAS, TIFFANY, VON TOBEL AND WILLIAMS

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Memorializes Nevada banking pioneer and community leader, Arthur M. Smith, Jr. (BDR R-1716)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing Nevada banking pioneer and community leader, Arthur M. Smith, Jr.

- 1 WHEREAS, Nevadans were deeply grieved to learn of the recent passing
- 2 of Arthur M. “Art” Smith, Jr. on April 3, 1999; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Arthur M. Smith, Jr. was born in Providence, Utah, on
- 4 May 2, 1922; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Art Smith grew up in Sparks and began his career as a home-
- 6 delivery carrier for the Reno Evening Gazette during the Great Depression
- 7 era of the 1930s and generously contributed his earnings to his family; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Art Smith graduated from Sparks High School in 1940 and,
- 9 at the age of 19 years, began as a file clerk with the Sparks branch of First
- 10 National Bank; and

1 WHEREAS, When the United States entered World War II in 1941, Art
2 Smith, who had finished his first year at the University of Nevada, Reno,
3 left school to serve his country as a torpedo plane pilot in the United States
4 Navy; and

5 WHEREAS, After the war, Art Smith moved to Las Vegas where he
6 began his banking career as a teller with the Bank of Nevada in Las Vegas,
7 and within just 14 years, at the young age of 37 years, he became the
8 president of the Bank of Nevada, the youngest chief executive of a major
9 bank in America at that time; and

10 WHEREAS, Eight years later, Art Smith was appointed President of this
11 state's largest financial institution, First National Bank, and assumed the
12 additional role of chairman in 1969; and

13 WHEREAS, Art Smith was highly respected nationally and assumed a
14 leadership role with the American Bankers Association which comprised
15 approximately 15,000 commercial banks; and

16 WHEREAS, Art Smith was one of five persons named by the United
17 States Comptroller of the Currency to perform a continuing review of
18 banking procedures and policies; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1967, Governor Paul Laxalt appointed Art Smith as a
20 regent of the University of Nevada, and he also served as a regent of Santa
21 Clara University in California; and

22 WHEREAS, In 1984, Art Smith retired as President and Chairman of First
23 Interstate Bank of Nevada; and

24 WHEREAS, Until his death, Art Smith was a trustee of the William M.
25 Keck and the Donald W. Reynolds foundations, two of the nation's largest
26 charitable organizations; and

27 WHEREAS, Art Smith served as Chairman of the Clark County Airport
28 Board, the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce and the United Way of
29 Northern Nevada and the Sierra, as President of the Nevada Bankers
30 Association and Western States Bankcard Association, on the Board of
31 Directors for the John Deere Insurance Group and Circus Circus
32 Enterprises, Inc., as Director for MasterCard International, Holiday Inn and
33 Harrah's Corporation and as a board member of the Western Asset
34 Management, Southern Nevada Industrial Foundation, Mountain States
35 Legal Foundation and Golden Nugget of Las Vegas; and

36 WHEREAS, Art Smith was also a trustee of Ducks Unlimited/Nevada, a
37 member of the Prospectors Club, Kerak Shrine Temple, and the Las Vegas
38 and Hidden Valley Country Clubs, a lay member of the board of Saint
39 Mary's Regional Medical Center and President of the Nevada Area Council
40 of Boy Scouts of America and the University of Nevada Wolf Club; and

41 WHEREAS, Tom King, Director of the University of Nevada Oral
42 History Program, interviewed Art Smith and in 1996 published a chronicle
43 of his colorful life in the autobiography, *Let's Get Going*; and

1 WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Art Smith was recognized for his
2 remarkable civic and business achievements, but most important to him was
3 his family as evidenced by his marriage to Charlotte Campbell, a union of
4 love and friendship for 52 wonderful years; and

5 WHEREAS, Art Smith is survived by his wife, Charlotte, daughters,
6 Barbara Smith Campbell of Reno and Deborah Smith Castello of Los
7 Gatos, California, sons, Blake Smith and Arthur "Art" Smith III of Reno
8 and 10 grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY
10 CONCURRING, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada
11 Legislature offer their sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the
12 family and friends of Arthur M. "Art" Smith, Jr., a gracious man who left a
13 rich legacy that will long be remembered by the residents of the State of
14 Nevada; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy
16 of this resolution to Art Smith's beloved wife, Charlotte.