

Assembly Resolution No. 8—Assemblymen Marvel, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Bache, Beers, Berman, Brower, Brown, Buckley, Carpenter, Cegavske, Chowning, Claborn, Collins, de Braga, Dini, Freeman, Gibbons, Giunchigliani, Goldwater, Gustavson, Hettrick, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, McClain, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Oceguela, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Smith, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION—Memorializing former Assemblywoman Louise Aloys Smith.

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Assembly were saddened to learn of the loss of former Assemblywoman Louise Aloys Smith on May 12, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Louise Aloys Smith was a native Nevadan, born in Lovelock on July 29, 1917, to Dr. Eugene Kneeland Smith and Kathleen O’Sullivan Smith; and

WHEREAS, Louise enlisted in the Women’s Army Corps in 1943, achieving the rank of sergeant and serving as a recruiter and as a rehabilitation counselor in military hospitals until her honorable discharge in 1946, and was honored with the World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal and American Campaign Medal; and

WHEREAS, Elected in 1949 as Assemblywoman from Pershing County, Louise served on eight standing committees, including Veterans Affairs, Legislative Functions, Social Welfare, State Library and State Publicity; and

WHEREAS, Leadership positions at that time were awarded to women mainly for ceremonial purposes, however, following her reelection in 1951, Louise had the honor of being the first woman to be elected as Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly by her fellow assemblymen; and

WHEREAS, After retiring from Sierra Pacific Power Company following 30 years of dedicated employment, Louise remained active in many organizations in her community, including the Pink Ladies Hospital Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary, Lovelock Study Club and Beta Sigma Phi, an international women’s social, cultural and service organization; and

WHEREAS, Continuing her lifelong love of music, with a magnificent soprano voice cultivated through operatic training as a student in the San Francisco Bay area, Louise performed at weddings, funerals, and other community and church events, as well as serving as a choir director; and

WHEREAS, As the co-founder of the Desert Little Theater, Louise acted in the capacity of performer and director in more than a decade of performances by the amateur theater group; and

WHEREAS, Committed to the importance of reading and literacy in her community, Louise served as a member on the Board of Trustees of the Pershing County Library, volunteered her time with the adult literacy and children’s story-telling programs, and was instrumental in obtaining funding for a new library building; and

WHEREAS, In 1988, Louise Aloys Smith was awarded the Woman of the Year Award, given annually in Reno to a Nevada woman with a lifetime of community service and achievement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the members of the Assembly of the 71st session of the Nevada Legislature offer their heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Louise Aloys Smith; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Louise Aloys Smith will long be remembered for her dedication to her community and this state; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit a copy of this resolution to Louise Aloys Smith's long-time friend, Leola Armstrong.