

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 23—SENATORS  
WASHINGTON, MATHEWS, RAGGIO, TOWNSEND, AMODEI,  
BEERS, CARE, CARLTON, CEGAVSKE, COFFIN, HARDY,  
HECK, HORSFORD, LEE, MCGINNESS, NOLAN, RHOADS,  
SCHNEIDER, TIFFANY, TITUS AND WIENER

APRIL 27, 2005

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JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN ANDERSON, MARVEL, SMITH,  
ALLEN, ANGLE, ARBERRY JR., ATKINSON, BUCKLEY,  
CARPENTER, CHRISTENSEN, CLABORN, CONKLIN, DENIS,  
GANSERT, GERHARDT, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOICOECHEA,  
GRADY, HARDY, HETTRICK, HOGAN, HOLCOMB, HORNE,  
KIRKPATRICK, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MABEY, MANENDO,  
MCCLAIN, MCCLEARY, MORTENSON, MUNFORD,  
OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PARNELL, PERKINS,  
PIERCE, SEALE, SHERER, SIBLEY AND WEBER

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Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Memorializes Tony Armstrong, beloved Mayor of  
City of Sparks. (BDR R-675)

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

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing Tony  
Armstrong, beloved Mayor of the City of Sparks.

- 1 WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature wish to
- 2 express their condolences and deep sorrow on the passing of Tony
- 3 Armstrong, the beloved Mayor of the City of Sparks, on January 29,
- 4 2005; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Tony Armstrong was born in Philadelphia,
- 6 Pennsylvania, on September 3, 1945, and moved to Sparks when he
- 7 was 4 years of age, with his mother and younger brothers, attending
- 8 local schools including graduating from Sparks High School; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Growing up in humble circumstances, Tony was a
- 10 self-professed troublemaker until, at the age of 14 years, he got
- 11 caught skipping school and had to spend several hours in a jail cell



1 alone, an experience which he said made him a different person and  
2 changed the path of his life, otherwise the people of Sparks may  
3 never have experienced the pleasure of having Tony Armstrong as  
4 their Mayor; and

5 WHEREAS, Tony Armstrong, a licensed general contractor, had a  
6 strong work ethic, starting his own successful construction  
7 inspection business; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1989, Tony Armstrong was elected as a  
9 Councilman for the City of Sparks, now Nevada's fifth largest city  
10 with a population of almost 80,000, and was reelected twice; and

11 WHEREAS, Tony was elected Mayor of the City of Sparks in  
12 1999 and was serving his second term at his passing, successfully  
13 steering the Rail City to healthy growth with thriving businesses and  
14 expanding neighborhoods, while still keeping that small hometown  
15 feeling; and

16 WHEREAS, As a public official, Tony Armstrong is largely  
17 credited with such successful developments as Victorian Square and  
18 the Sparks Marina, while taking time to attend school functions,  
19 grand openings, dedications, parades and other special events; and

20 WHEREAS, Under the watchful eye of Tony Armstrong, Sparks  
21 became known for its special events that include the entire family,  
22 such as the Star Spangled Sparks fireworks extravaganza, the Sparks  
23 Hometowne Farmer's Market, the Sparks Hometowne Christmas  
24 gala, the Big Easy, Hot August Nights and the Best in the West  
25 Nugget Rib Cook-Off; and

26 WHEREAS, Geno Martini, former Councilman who was recently  
27 named Mayor of the City of Sparks and a friend of Tony  
28 Armstrong's since the third grade, said "What made him stand out  
29 as a politician was a passion for his job of Mayor, his honesty and  
30 his connection with the people"; and

31 WHEREAS, Preferring to be called "Tony," rather than "Mr.  
32 Mayor," he was known for his willingness to always give a hand to  
33 anyone in need and for his friendliness, making everyone who met  
34 him feel they had a personal relationship with him; and

35 WHEREAS, Because Tony Armstrong disliked suits and ties,  
36 people were asked to wear casual attire to the service to celebrate  
37 his life, with about 2,000 people wearing such clothing as blue  
38 jeans, khaki pants, golf shirts and cowboy boots to show their  
39 respect for "the people's Mayor," and even Governor Kenny Guinn  
40 and Pastor Randy Siever of Sparks Christian Fellowship Church got  
41 in the spirit by wearing Hawaiian shirts; and

42 WHEREAS, His daughter Misti remembers Tony as a perfect  
43 father who always made time for his family, no matter how busy his  
44 schedule; and



1 WHEREAS, Upon learning that her grandfather had passed away,  
2 7-year-old Madison consoled her parents by writing "Dear Mom and  
3 Dad, I'm sorry that Papa died. Hopefully, God has a Mayor up in  
4 the sky."; and

5 WHEREAS, Tony Armstrong is survived by Debby, his loving  
6 wife of 22 years, sons Richard and Keith Armstrong, daughter Misti  
7 Franco, and grandchildren Kierra, Madison, Kole and James; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE  
10 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That Tony Armstrong will be  
11 remembered for attaining many great successes on behalf of the  
12 people and the city that he loved so much, while maintaining the  
13 friendliness and caring attributes that made the residents of Sparks  
14 return that affection; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the people of the City of Sparks will surely feel  
16 the presence of Tony Armstrong as they celebrate the Sparks  
17 Centennial because he will be watching over the city that he  
18 treasured and of which he was so proud; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and  
20 transmit a copy of this resolution to Debby Armstrong, cherished  
21 wife of Tony.



