

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 39—Senators Raggio, Amodei, Beers, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Hardy, Heck, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Rhoads, Schneider, Tiffany, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

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FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing noted philanthropist and Nevada gaming pioneer Warren Nelson.

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature were deeply saddened at the passing of noted philanthropist and Nevada gaming pioneer Warren Nelson on September 23, 2004, at the age of 91; and

WHEREAS, Born to Bertha Meisenbach Nelson and Lawrence Nelson on January 19, 1913, in Great Falls, Montana, Warren Nelson began his career in the gaming business in Montana during the depression, coming to Reno in 1936 to run the keno game at the old Palace Club; and

WHEREAS, After joining the Marine Corps in 1942, Warren Nelson was stationed in San Francisco, California, where he met Pat Futter, one of only 17 women master sergeants in the Corps, and the couple were married on Valentine's Day in 1946; and

WHEREAS, Upon his return to Reno, Warren assisted Bill Harrah in opening Harrah's Club, and also gained experience working in various capacities at the Mapes Hotel and the Little Waldorf, until 1962 when he and his partners bought the Club Cal Neva in the heart of downtown Reno; and

WHEREAS, Recognized as a creative thinker and an innovator in the gaming industry, Warren Nelson was one of the first inductees into the Gaming Hall of Fame in 1989 and served as President of the Nevada Gaming Industry Association for 5 years; and

WHEREAS, With his great sense of humor and a personality bigger than life, Warren made many lifelong friends, and some of the most satisfying personal and professional relationships were formed with colleagues that he served with on the board of directors of such companies as Boyd Gaming and International Game Technology; and

WHEREAS, Warren Nelson founded the Truckee Meadows Boys and Girls Club, served on the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada and was a trustee on the Board of the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine in Denver; and

WHEREAS, According to his daughter Gail Nelson, "He was known for his gaming career and his generosity to the community and to other communities, but he was always helping people, and that's what he should really be remembered for"; and

WHEREAS, His belief in education was evidenced by his generous donations to Carroll College in his home state of Montana, where he also provided more than 50 students with scholarships, and to the University of Nevada, Reno; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his philanthropic interests, the avid outdoorsman was an expert fisherman and had a special love for his hunting dogs; and

WHEREAS, Warren Nelson is survived by his wife, Pat, their son Greg of Taos, New Mexico, their daughter Gail of Reno and three granddaughters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That Warren Nelson will be greatly missed by his many friends, his colleagues and his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature extend their heartfelt condolences to the family of Warren Nelson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to his loving wife Pat, his son Greg and his daughter Gail.