

Senate Resolution No. 8—Senators Coffin; Amodei, Breedon, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Copening, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Parks, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Townsend, Washington, Wiener and Woodhouse

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE RESOLUTION—Honoring the accomplishments of Steve Fossett.

WHEREAS, The spirit of adventure has forever been a cornerstone of our great nation, and no one has personified that quality more than world-famous aviator, business executive and sailor James Stephen Fossett; and

WHEREAS, Although Steve Fossett always maintained that he was not a “thrill seeker,” his inclination to “test things out” evidenced itself at the young age of 3 when he discovered the starter button on a car and proceeded to experiment, jerking the car repeatedly down the street for several blocks; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 11, Steve joined the Boy Scouts of America, and he attained the rank of Eagle Scout by demonstrating his Scout Spirit, service and leadership, characteristics that fostered the accomplishment of amazing feats throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Steve graduated with a bachelor’s degree in economics from Stanford University in 1966, and in 1968, he earned a master’s degree in business administration from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and in that same year married his beloved wife and lifelong supporter Peggy; and

WHEREAS, Launching a successful career in Chicago, this entrepreneur soon began amassing his fortune through trading futures and options, and he established the successful brokerage companies Lakota Trading, Marathon Securities and Larkspur Securities; and

WHEREAS, Steve added high-powered adventure to the family and business aspects of his life and became an American legend as he swam the English Channel, completed an Ironman Triathlon, competed in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, set cross-country skiing records in Colorado, participated in the Le Mans road race, climbed some of the world’s highest peaks, including the Matterhorn and Mount Kilimanjaro, and circumnavigated the earth ballooning, sailing and flying; and

WHEREAS, The name Steve Fossett has become somewhat synonymous with achievements in aviation because of such exploits as completing the first around-the-world, nonstop solo balloon flight, setting an absolute world speed record for Zeppelin airships



as one of only 17 Zeppelin captains in the world, setting nonsupersonic speed records in a Cessna Citation X and establishing a new world record for glider altitude; and

WHEREAS, In 2007, to honor this aviator who holds 116 official world records in the five different fields of sailboats, balloons, airplanes, gliders and airships, the National Aviation Hall of Fame added Steve Fossett's name to the Enshrinee List for Jet Age aviation achievements; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Legislature was saddened to learn of the untimely death of this earnest adventurer when the plane he was flying went down not long after taking off from a Nevada ranch on a mission to find an appropriate location for an attempt to break the land speed record in a rocket-propelled car; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the members of the Nevada Senate honor the accomplishments of Steve Fossett and express sincere condolences to his wife and all those who loved him; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Steve's beloved wife Peggy Fossett.

