

Senate Resolution No. 4—Senators Horsford, McGinness; Breeden, Brower, Cegavske, Copening, Denis, Gustavson, Halseth, Hardy, Kieckhefer, Kihuen, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Parks, Rhoads, Roberson, Schneider, Settlemeyer and Wiener

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE RESOLUTION—Inducting William J. Raggio into the Senate Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the Legislature of the State of Nevada has established a Senate Hall of Fame whose members are selected by leadership from those past Senators who have served with distinction and who have made exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, William J. Raggio, a fourth generation Nevadan, was born October 30, 1926, in Reno, Nevada, and was educated in the Reno public schools; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, William entered Naval Officer Candidate training, and later was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps; after his military service, he received his B.A. from the University of Nevada, Reno, before going on to receive his J.D. from the University of California; and

WHEREAS, William J. Raggio was elected District Attorney of Washoe County in 1958, an office he held until 1970; while District Attorney, he was named “Outstanding Prosecutor in the United States” and elected President of the National District Attorneys Association; and

WHEREAS, William J. Raggio was first elected to the Nevada Senate from Washoe County in November 1972 and served over 38 years until January 2011, having the longest Senate service in the history of Nevada, including 19 regular sessions and 13 special sessions; Senator Raggio served as Senate Majority Floor Leader in 1987-1989 and 1993-2008, making him the longest-serving Senate Majority Floor Leader in Nevada history; he also served as Senate Minority Floor Leader for 6 regular and 4 special sessions; and

WHEREAS, Senator Raggio was Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance in the regular sessions of 1987-1989 and 1993-2007, and served as either Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Interim Finance Committee during that same time period; and Senator Raggio served as Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education in 1997-1998, 2001-2002, and 2005-2006; and

WHEREAS, Among his legislative accomplishments, Senator Raggio sponsored Nevada’s Education Reform Act, perhaps the



most important education measure in State history; established the Nevada Economic Forum to provide nonpartisan, technical projections of state revenue; authored legislation providing comprehensive regional planning in Washoe County; and was honored as the "Father of the Airport Authority" in recognition of his legislation creating that entity; and

WHEREAS, Senator Raggio received numerous national awards and honors over the years for his legislative service, including the elected National Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) in 1993; the Lifetime Achievement Award of the National Italian American Foundation in 1999; and ALEC honoring him by establishing the William J. Raggio Excellence in Leadership and Outstanding Service Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That William J. Raggio, a leader among leaders and most dedicated son to his native Nevada, is hereby inducted into the Senate Hall of Fame of the Legislature of the State of Nevada.

