

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6—SENATORS SMITH, BROWER; ATKINSON, CEGAVSKE, DENIS, FORD, GOICOECHEA, GUSTAVSON, HAMMOND, HARDY, HUTCHISON, JONES, KIECKHEFER, KIHUEN, MANENDO, PARKS, ROBERSON, SEGERBLUM, SETTELMAYER, SPEARMAN AND WOODHOUSE

MARCH 27, 2013

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN HICKEY; AIZLEY, ELLIOT ANDERSON, PAUL ANDERSON, BENITEZ-THOMPSON, BOBZIEN, BROOKS, BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, CARLTON, CARRILLO, COHEN, DALY, DIAZ, DONDERO LOOP, DUNCAN, EISEN, ELLISON, FIORE, FLORES, FRIERSON, GRADY, HAMBRICK, HANSEN, HARDY, HEALEY, HOGAN, HORNE, KIRKPATRICK, KIRNER, LIVERMORE, MARTIN, MUNFORD, NEAL, OHRENSCHALL, OSCARSON, PIERCE, SPIEGEL, SPRINKLE, STEWART, SWANK, WHEELER AND WOODBURY

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Memorializes former State Senator William J. Raggio. (BDR R-622)

~

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing former State Senator William J. Raggio.

- 1 WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature are
2 mourning the passing, on February 23, 2012, of one of their most
3 esteemed colleagues and one of Nevada’s most dedicated citizens,
4 former State Senator William J. Raggio; and
5 WHEREAS, William John Raggio, Jr., a third generation native
6 Nevadan, was born in Reno, on October 30, 1926, just a few hours
7 short of Nevada Day, and was educated in the Reno public schools;
8 and



1 WHEREAS, After completing Naval Officer Candidate training
2 and his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the United States
3 Marine Corps, Bill received his B.A. from the University of Nevada,
4 Reno, and his J.D. from the University of California's Hastings
5 College of Law; and

6 WHEREAS, Bill Raggio was first elected District Attorney of
7 Washoe County in 1958 and served in that office until 1970,
8 achieving national recognition as the Outstanding Prosecutor in the
9 United States in 1965 and President of the National District
10 Attorneys Association in 1967; and

11 WHEREAS, After Bill Raggio was first elected to the State
12 Senate in 1972, he went on to become the longest-serving State
13 Senator in Nevada history, serving over 38 years in 19 regular
14 sessions and 13 special sessions, which included 20 years as Senate
15 Majority Floor Leader, the longest in Nevada history; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Raggio served diligently and honorably for
17 many years as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance,
18 Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Interim Finance Committee and
19 Chairman of the Legislative Committee on Education; and

20 WHEREAS, As State Senator, Bill Raggio was a true pioneer,
21 sponsoring perhaps the most important education measure in state
22 history, the Nevada Education Reform Act of 1997, establishing the
23 Nevada Economic Forum to provide nonpartisan, technical
24 projections of state revenue, authoring the constitutional amendment
25 that limits Nevada's regular legislative sessions to 120 calendar
26 days, and being honored as "Father of the Airport Authority" in
27 recognition of his legislation creating that entity in Washoe County;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Senator Raggio received numerous national awards
30 and honors over the years for his legislative service, including
31 election as National Chairman of the American Legislative
32 Exchange Council (ALEC) in 1993, the Lifetime Achievement
33 Award of the National Italian American Foundation in 1999, and the
34 establishment by ALEC of the William J. Raggio Excellence in
35 Leadership and Outstanding Service Award; and

36 WHEREAS, Bill Raggio, a member of the Boy Scouts of America
37 starting in 1938, and the recipient of the National Distinguished
38 Eagle Scout award in 1989, stated that scouting taught him the
39 importance of principles, morals and achievement and of all
40 the recognition he received in his life, his Eagle Scout Badge was
41 the award he cherished most; and

42 WHEREAS, William J. Raggio was inducted into the Nevada
43 Senate Hall of Fame on April 19, 2011, as a master negotiator,
44 devoted public servant and one of the greatest political figures in
45 Nevada history; and



1 WHEREAS, Senator Raggio was tireless in his commitment to the
2 people of the State of Nevada and legendary in his ability to
3 command nonpartisan politics from both parties for the good of the
4 people of the State; and

5 WHEREAS, William J. Raggio will long be remembered as one
6 of Nevada's most devoted sons and outstanding citizens, with an
7 ever-present sense of humor, whose honest efforts and genuine
8 accomplishments will benefit many generations of Nevadans to
9 come; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
11 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 77th Session of
12 the Nevada Legislature hereby extend their deepest condolences to
13 Senator Raggio's beloved wife Dale, and daughters Leslie and
14 Tracy; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
16 transmit copies of this resolution to Bill Raggio's beloved wife and
17 daughters.

