

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6—Senators Smith, Brower; Atkinson, Cegavske, Denis, Ford, Goicoechea, Gustavson, Hammond, Hardy, Hutchison, Jones, Kieckhefer, Kihuen, Manendo, Parks, Roberson, Segerblom, Settlemeyer, Spearman and Woodhouse

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

FILE NUMBER.....

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

WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature are mourning the passing, on February 23, 2012, of one of their most esteemed colleagues and one of Nevada's most dedicated citizens, former State Senator William J. Raggio; and

WHEREAS, William John Raggio, Jr., a third generation native Nevadan, was born in Reno, on October 30, 1926, just a few hours short of Nevada Day, and was educated in the Reno public schools; and

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

