

SENATE RESOLUTION

CHAPTER 869

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1
(Heigaard)

(Approved by the Committee on Delayed Bills)

WALTER R. HJELLE RECOGNITION

A resolution recognizing Walter R. Hjelle for his many accomplishments and leadership in the transportation field and his long years of service to this state.

WHEREAS, the Legislative Assembly customarily recognizes and honors North Dakota citizens for achievements that have brought national recognition; and

WHEREAS, Walter R. Hjelle was first appointed Highway Commissioner of the North Dakota State Highway Department in 1961 and had the longest continuous service as Highway Commissioner of any individual currently serving in that capacity in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Walter R. Hjelle's dedication to professionalism and public service led to involvement in diverse state and national associations including serving as vice president of Region III of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), chairman of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Public Information, chairman of the AASHTO Highway Traffic Safety Committee, a participant of the AASHTO Policy Committee and Standing Committee on Administration, past president of the Mississippi Valley Conference, and as a member of the Kiwanis, the American Legion, and the Masonic and Elk Lodges; and

WHEREAS, among Walter R. Hjelle's many noteworthy accomplishments are his leadership in aiding North Dakota in completing its interstate highway system before any other state completed its system, the expansion to four lane highways of United States Highway 83 North between Bismarck and Minot and United States Highway 2 between Grand Forks and Minot, his amicable and professional relationship with four different governors from two political parties, and the long-standing positive and fruitful relationship between the State Highway Department and the Federal Highway Administration, other state agencies, and other transportation entities; and

WHEREAS, recognition for Walter R. Hjelle's many accomplishments includes the Distinguished Service Citation awarded by the Associated General Contractors, induction into the Highway Hall of Honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award from Valley City State College, the Award of Gratitude from Communities for enabling the construction of a modern United States Highway 2, the 1979 Boss of the Year Award given by the Sakakawea Chapter of Professional Secretaries International, the 1979 Meritorious Service Award given by the Red River Valley Potato Growers, honorary lifetime membership in the International 281-10 Highway Association, the merit Award for Employment of the Handicapped, the Governor's Commodore Award, a Certificate for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Recreation and Parks, an award from

Take Pride in America, and a lifetime associate membership in the Jaycees; and

WHEREAS, Walter R. Hjelle's many noteworthy accomplishments deserve recognition in an appropriate manner to ensure that the citizens of this state are aware of his dedication to public service and the many benefits to the state that have resulted from that dedication and his commitment to providing and maintaining a viable highway system for the citizens of this state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA:

That the Senate expresses its thanks and appreciation to Walter R. Hjelle and commends him for his many accomplishments and leadership in the transportation field and for his long years of service to this state and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Senate send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Walter R. Hjelle.

Filed April 17, 1989