

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6013

A RESOLUTION in memory of Dr. Jim Morrison.

WHEREAS, Jim Morrison, 68, of Colby, died November 24, 2010. A former Kansas legislator, he served in the House of Representatives from 1992 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison was born April 11, 1942, in Colby to Pete and Louise Morrison. Dr. Morrison attended Colby public schools, graduating from high school in 1960, the University of Kansas from 1960 to 1964, majoring in Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, and the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, where he received his Doctor of Optometry degree in 1967. Dr. Morrison served as an optometrist for the community of Colby for 41 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison is remembered for his commitment to his constituency from House District No. 121, for serving as Chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee, the Committee on Government Efficiency and Fiscal Oversight, the Joint Committee on Information Technology, the Joint Committee on Computers and Telecommunications, the Select Committee on Information Management, and as a member of the House Education Committee and the Health Care Fund Oversight Stabilization Committee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison was also active in numerous community and civic organizations, including Educational Service Centers (formerly known as the Northwest Kansas Educational Diagnostic and Referral Center for Children, Inc.), Kansas Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, Fellow American Academy of Optometry, Kansas Optometric Association, Colby Lions Club, Colby Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club. Additionally, in 2011, the Kansas Alliance of Advanced Nurse Practitioners recognized Dr. Morrison as the NP Advocate of the year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison married his grade school friend and high school sweetheart, Karen Jean Carr, on August 25, 1963. They are the parents of three sons, Mike Morrison, Jeff Morrison, and Scott Morrison, and one daughter, Lisa Morrison, and 11 grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, The state has lost a valiant leader. During his years in the legislature, Dr. Morrison worked tirelessly for his constituents not only in representing their needs but also by communicating to them the issues covered in that day's session. Dr. Morrison was instrumental in passing SB 5 in 1997, which created oversight for all state agency information technology purchases, saving the state millions of dollars. During the legislative session, Dr. Morrison was known to send 80 daily faxes (before email became ubiquitous) to interested constituents and community leaders, provided two daily radio broadcasts on local radio stations, and wrote a bimonthly column for the Hays Daily News: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jim Morrison and thank him for the years of public service he gave to his state and community; and

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*