

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 166

2 BY REDFERN

3 A Resolution honoring the founding and growth of the
4 American Mock Trial Association.

5 WHEREAS, in 1982, Richard Calkins, then dean of
6 Drake University Law School, Gene Reifsnider, and Dan
7 Stamatelos began to explore the idea of bringing the
8 experience of mock trial competition to Iowa high
9 school students; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1983, the Iowa Supreme Court, Drake Law
11 School, and the Young Lawyers Division of the Iowa Bar
12 Association joined together to create Iowa's first
13 high school mock trial tournament, judged by volunteer
14 lawyers from around the state; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1985, this tournament had grown to
16 include both high school and middle school teams with
17 regional competitions culminating in a state
18 championship tournament; and

19 WHEREAS, in 1985, Mr. Calkins, Mr. Reifsnider, and
20 Mr. Stamatelos founded the American Mock Trial
21 Association and the first national intercollegiate
22 mock trial tournament was held in that same year; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Calkins has served as president of
24 that organization since its founding and will become
25 president-emeritus in 2004; and

26 WHEREAS, in the 20 years since its founding, the
27 American Mock Trial Association has seen explosive
28 growth in new programs and team participation, with
29 267 colleges and universities fielding 507 teams for
30 the 2003-2004 academic year, with almost 60 events

SRE 166

RULES & ADMINISTRATION

1 sanctioned each season and a national championship
2 tournament held in Des Moines; and

3 WHEREAS, the lawyers, court system, and law schools
4 and universities of Iowa combine their resources and
5 efforts in ongoing support for the association and the
6 tournament; and

7 WHEREAS, the American Mock Trial Association now
8 hosts the largest nonathletic tournament event in the
9 United States; NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
11 honors the ongoing role of the American Mock Trial
12 Association; first, in offering the experience of mock
13 trial practice to undergraduate students; and second,
14 for the service the association provides to the legal
15 profession by fostering in America's students an
16 interest in advocacy and the law; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate, on behalf
18 of all Iowans, reaffirms the state's commitment to
19 support the association and foster its future growth.

20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30