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Laid Over Under Rule 25

*H. adopted*  
5/1/96

*S. adopted*  
5/1/96  
(P. 1589)

132

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.  
2 BY VANDE HOEF  
3 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance  
4 of the fossil crinoid.

5 WHEREAS, the study of fossils contained in  
6 sedimentary rock formations in the state provides  
7 geologists with evidence of the geological and  
8 paleontological history of the state; and

9 WHEREAS, fossils of crinoids, marine invertebrates  
10 which live in all depths and temperatures, are  
11 abundant in the rock of marine origin underlying the  
12 state, including significant deposits in the cities of  
13 Burlington, Le Grand, and Gilmore City; and

14 WHEREAS, the crinoid has survived 475 million years  
15 of earth history and remains an active part of the  
16 world's ocean life; and

17 WHEREAS, crinoid skeletal fragments make up a  
18 significant portion of the limestone deposits of Iowa,  
19 providing Iowa industry with the limestone used for  
20 road base, as agricultural lime, as building stone,  
21 and as the raw material for cement including "portland  
22 cement," which is used to form the most widely used  
23 type of construction cement; and

24 WHEREAS, in addition to the economic benefits  
25 resulting from the presence of fossil crinoids, the  
26 crinoid has also brought recognition to the state and  
27 to citizens of the state as the result of the research  
28 of both professionals and amateurs; and

29 WHEREAS, three of these researchers have received  
30 recognition in the global scientific community for

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1 their efforts: Charles Wachsmuth (1829-1896), a  
2 German immigrant who settled at Burlington and who,  
3 due to his collecting, research, and writings  
4 regarding the crinoid, received an appointment to the  
5 Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University;  
6 Frank Spinger (1848-1927) who, as an attorney  
7 practicing in Burlington, became a friend and coworker  
8 of Charles Wachsmuth with whom he produced many texts  
9 on crinoids and for whom a room at the Smithsonian  
10 Institution is named; and Burnice H. Bean (1879-1966)  
11 who, as a farmer near Le Grand, collected, studied and  
12 wrote about crinoids, savings thousands of perfectly  
13 preserved fossil crinoids from destruction, thereby  
14 providing universities and museums across the nation  
15 with exhibits of these specimens, including a current  
16 exhibit at the State Historical Building; and

17 WHEREAS, the fossil crinoid, also referred to as  
18 the sea lily, is a symbol of the state's geological  
19 and paleontological heritage, has provided economic  
20 benefits to the state as a source of limestone, and is  
21 recognized for its completeness and beauty worldwide;  
22 NOW THEREFORE,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
24 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly  
25 officially recognizes the importance of the fossil  
26 crinoid, and encourages the citizens of the state to  
27 tour the current exhibit at the state historical  
28 building entitled "Flowers of the Iowa Seas" which  
29 includes specimens of fossil crinoids and examples of  
30 a variety of other former and current inhabitants of

- 1 Iowa's seas.
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