

4/3/97 *Stacy Low*  
4/7/97 *HL Pass*  
FILED APR 3 1997

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

1  
2 BY DELUHERY, PALMER, KRAMER, SZYMONIAK, McCOY,  
3 MADDOX, DEARDEN, ANGELO, BARTZ, BEHN, BLACK of Jasper,  
4 BLACK of Kossuth, BOETTGER, BORLAUG, CONNOLLY,  
5 DOUGLAS, DRAKE, DVORSKY, FINK, FLYNN, FRAISE,  
6 FREEMAN, GETTINGS, GRONSTAL, HALVORSON, HAMMOND,  
7 HANSEN, HEDGE, HORN, IVERSON, JENSEN, JUDGE, KIBBIE,  
8 KING, LUNDBY, McKEAN, MCKIBBEN, McLAREN, NEUHAUSER,  
9 REDFERN, REDWINE, REHBERG, RENSINK, RITTMER,  
10 SCHUERER, TINSMAN, VILSACK, and ZIEMAN

11 A Resolution honoring Des Moines Mayor Arthur Davis for  
12 his many contributions to the city of Des Moines and  
13 the state of Iowa.

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Arthur Davis, while growing up, in his  
15 own words, in "kind of a conservative Jewish home" in  
16 Sioux City, learned early from his mother that good  
17 deeds will be noticed, should not be bragged about,  
18 and will provide a barometer by which others may judge  
19 a person's accomplishments; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has since that time accrued an  
21 impressive list of accomplishments, including  
22 membership on the Des Moines Human Rights Commission  
23 from 1960 to 1963; membership on the Des Moines school  
24 board from 1963 to 1969, including serving as  
25 president of the board for two years; service as the  
26 president of Planned Parenthood of Iowa in 1976;  
27 service as president of the Greater Des Moines Chamber  
28 of Commerce Federation in 1979; fulfillment of an  
29 appointment by President Jimmy Carter in 1980 to the  
30 President's Holocaust Memorial Council; and service as

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1 the chairman of the Iowa Democratic Party from 1985 to  
2 1987; and

3 WHEREAS, during these years, Mr. Davis was building  
4 one of Des Moines' largest, most influential, and  
5 prestigious law firms, now known as the firm of Davis,  
6 Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts, P.C., but which has  
7 most often been described through the years as "the  
8 Davis firm"; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis' passion for community-building  
10 was evidenced by his decision to run for mayor of Des  
11 Moines in 1995; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis brought civility, elegance, and  
13 a hearty, baritone voice to the office of mayor; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis' fellow mayors in the Golden  
15 Circle of Des Moines have expressed their respect for  
16 him; applauded his concern for and efforts to  
17 strengthen the relationship between Des Moines and the  
18 suburban communities; praised his negotiating skills,  
19 gentlemanly manner, integrity, and vision; and noted  
20 the improvements and tough decisions Mr. Davis made in  
21 his brief tenure in the mayor's office; and

22 WHEREAS, after learning of the recurrence of a  
23 life-threatening illness in the summer of 1996, Mr.  
24 Davis planned to serve out his term, but with much  
25 regret announced on March 30, 1997, that the illness  
26 forced him to make his decision to resign as mayor;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, although his time as mayor has been  
29 limited in duration, Mr. Davis will be remembered for  
30 his vigorous efforts to improve education, to

1 implement a helpful police presence in the community,  
2 and to establish responsible budgetary practices; NOW  
3 THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate  
5 honors Mr. Arthur Davis for his many accomplishments,  
6 his deep commitment to community service, and for the  
7 benefits he brought to the city of Des Moines and all  
8 the citizens of Iowa;

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate wishes  
10 Mayor Davis strength, courage, and its hope that the  
11 comfort and attention offered by his family and many  
12 friends will support and sustain him; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the  
14 Senate send copies of this Resolution to Mayor Arthur  
15 Davis and his family and to the Des Moines City  
16 Council.

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