

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 146

2 BY GRANZOW

3 A Resolution honoring the city of Alden on its
4 sesquicentennial anniversary year.

5 WHEREAS, the city of Alden, first settled in 1854
6 and platted in 1855, is celebrating its 150th
7 anniversary; and

8 WHEREAS, Henry Alden, a direct descendent of John
9 and Priscilla Alden who crossed the Atlantic Ocean on
10 the Mayflower, and Sumner Kemp heard glowing reports
11 of a vast, beautiful, rich, but unsettled land west of
12 the Mississippi River; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1854, Henry Alden purchased 120 acres
14 of land for \$125 to build a saw mill, and in 1855,
15 Sumner Kemp, along with Ira Plummer, walked to Fort
16 Des Moines and under the Homestead Act entered 120
17 acres for himself and 80 acres for Henry Alden on
18 which the original plat for the city of Alden was
19 located; and

20 WHEREAS, the first schoolhouse was built in Alden
21 in 1856, and a grist mill was built in 1858, although
22 the town of Alden was not incorporated until 1879; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1884, the Chicago, Iowa, and Dakota
24 Railroad, now the Chicago Northwestern Railroad, was
25 completed to Alden from Eldora, allowing perishable
26 products to be brought to the area in refrigerator
27 cars, instituting a time of change and advancement,
28 and bringing new businesses such as a creamery; a
29 wagon works; a manufacturer of dirt loading equipment,
30 manure spreaders, excavators, and road builders; Hale

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1 Roberts Stone Co., now I.L.C. Resources; ice houses;
2 several hotels; a grain elevator; and a lumberyard;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, by 1880, the city of Alden had four
5 churches and established a post office; NOW THEREFORE,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
7 That the House of Representatives recognizes and
8 extends its congratulations to the city of Alden on
9 the city's sesquicentennial year and for its 150 years
10 of service to its citizens and to the State of Iowa.

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