

# Senate Resolution 111 - Introduced

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 111

### BY COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

1 A Resolution honoring Senator Pam Jochum for her  
2 service to Iowa.

3 WHEREAS, the guideposts for Senator Mary Pamela  
4 (Pam) Jochum's life of public service include the  
5 people of her beloved Dubuque community; her father,  
6 Eugene (Mickey), who worked for the Dubuque Packing  
7 Company and her mother, Jean (Noel) Hingtgen, who  
8 raised six children and volunteered with neighborhood  
9 schools and local charitable organizations, who by  
10 their examples taught her the importance of family and  
11 a hard day's work; the sisters of multiple orders who  
12 instilled in her a passion for democracy, equality, and  
13 justice and the ideal that failing to speak up and do  
14 what is right is failing to do your civic duty; and her  
15 daughter, Sarah Noel, who epitomized empathy, dignity,  
16 and unconditional love; and

17 WHEREAS, after graduating magna cum laude in speech  
18 communication from Loras College, recognizing that  
19 good government should promote fairness, improve the  
20 lives of all, and provide a public voice for those who  
21 are not able to speak for themselves, Senator Jochum  
22 became active in politics as the chairperson of the  
23 Dubuque County Democratic Party, as an organizer for  
24 presidential and other candidates, and as a delegate to  
25 national conventions; and

26 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum was elected to the House of  
27 Representatives in 1992 as the first woman to represent  
28 Dubuque in the General Assembly, serving eight terms

1 before moving to the Senate in 2008; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum has served in many  
3 leadership positions during her tenure, including as  
4 President of the Senate from 2013 to 2017, becoming  
5 only the first woman Democrat and the second woman to  
6 hold the position, as assistant Democratic leader, and  
7 most recently as Senate Democratic leader; and

8 WHEREAS, during her over 30 years in the House  
9 of Representatives and the Senate, Senator Jochum  
10 has served as a member of or in other positions on  
11 the Appropriations, Administration and Rules/Rules  
12 and Administration (vice chairperson and ranking  
13 member), State Government (chairperson, vice  
14 chairperson, and ranking member), Labor and Industrial  
15 Relations/Labor/Labor and Business Relations (vice  
16 chairperson), Transportation, Ways and Means (ranking  
17 member), Natural Resources, Economic Development,  
18 Judiciary, Environmental Protection, Rebuild Iowa,  
19 Human Resources/Health and Human Services, Ethics  
20 (ranking member), and Commerce Committees, and on  
21 the Administration and Regulation (chairperson and  
22 vice chairperson) and Justice Systems Appropriations  
23 Subcommittees; and

24 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum has also served on  
25 innumerable councils, committees, boards, and  
26 commissions, including the Public Retirement Systems  
27 Committee, Administrative Rules Review Committee,  
28 State Government Efficiency Review Committee, the  
29 Mississippi River Partnership Council, the Indigent  
30 Defense Advisory Commission, and the Tax Expenditure

1 Committee; the Legislative Council; the Prevention of  
2 Disabilities Policy Council, the Family Development  
3 and Self-Sufficiency Council, the Investment Board of  
4 the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System, and the  
5 Mental Health and Disabilities Services Commission; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum, believing that creating a  
7 society and an economy that protects the rights and  
8 freedoms of all and works for all Iowans is vital to  
9 the future of the state, has played a leading role  
10 in expanding affordable health care to thousands of  
11 working Iowans through the creation of the Iowa Health  
12 and Wellness Plan and the Children's Health Insurance  
13 Program (Hawki), has been a champion for citizens  
14 with disabilities, has worked to ensure government  
15 transparency and access to public information and  
16 records, has helped expand access to early childhood  
17 education and affordable higher education, has  
18 influenced reforms in Iowa's tax laws and backed a  
19 living wage to build strong working families, and has  
20 protected the environment by advocating for alternative  
21 energy sources and flood mitigation programs; and

22 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum has received countless  
23 honors, including from the Freedom of Information  
24 Council, labor unions, child advocacy organizations,  
25 Iowa Caregivers, the Iowa Hospital Association, the  
26 Iowa Health Care Association, The League of Women  
27 Voters, the Iowa League of Cities, the Dubuque  
28 Chamber of Commerce, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa,  
29 the Iowa Firefighters Association, the Iowa State  
30 Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association, and the Iowa

1 Pharmacy Association, and has received the Uncommon  
2 Public Service Award from the Hoover Presidential  
3 Foundation, one of the highest awards given to Iowa  
4 state legislators; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Jochum has had an inspirational  
6 legislative career, being described as passionate,  
7 tenacious, and committed to her community and to  
8 dignity for all people; serving as a tremendous role  
9 model for women; and being respected for her ability to  
10 build coalitions and get things done for Dubuque and  
11 for Iowa; all while humbly acknowledging that "you just  
12 can't ask for more of an honor than for people to have  
13 enough belief and trust in you that they want you to be  
14 their voice"; NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate honors  
16 Senator Pam Jochum for her years of service to her  
17 community of Dubuque and to the state of Iowa, and  
18 wishes her all the best in the years to come.