
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24—SENATORS RAGGIO, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, CEGAVSKE, COFFIN, HARDY, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, NOLAN, O’CONNELL, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TIFFANY, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

MARCH 25, 2003

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN GRIFFIN, ANDERSON, ANDONOV, ANGLE, ARBERRY, ATKINSON, BEERS, BROWN, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CHOWNING, CHRISTENSEN, CLABORN, COLLINS, CONKLIN, GEDDES, GIBBONS, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOICOECHEA, GOLDWATER, GRADY, GUSTAVSON, HARDY, HETTRICK, HORNE, KNECHT, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MABEY, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MCCLEARY, MORTENSON, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PERKINS, PIERCE, SHERER, WEBER AND WILLIAMS

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Memorializes Nevada businessman and civic leader Tom “Big Dog” Wiesner. (BDR R-239)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Memorializing Nevada businessman and civic leader Tom “Big Dog” Wiesner.

- 1 WHEREAS, The residents of the State of Nevada were deeply
2 saddened to learn of the passing of longtime resident, businessman
3 and civic leader, Tom “Big Dog” Wiesner; and
4 WHEREAS, Tom Wiesner was born February 28, 1939, in
5 Wausau, Wisconsin, later moving to Neenah, Wisconsin, with his
6 family, where he graduated from Neenah High School in 1957; and
7 WHEREAS, Before graduating from the University of Wisconsin
8 with a bachelor’s degree in education, in addition to other
9 accomplishments, Tom Wiesner captained the Badger football team
10 to a Big 10 title in 1959 and to the Rose Bowl in 1960; and



1 WHEREAS, In 1963, following a brief stint in professional
2 football, Tom Wiesner moved to Las Vegas where he married Lynn
3 Geary, a schoolteacher, in 1965, and became the proud father of
4 daughter Kari and son Kurt; and

5 WHEREAS, Tom Wiesner's various business ventures prospered,
6 including real estate investment and the development of the Las
7 Vegas Athletic Clubs and a chain of Wisconsin-themed restaurants,
8 as did his commitment to the betterment and economic development
9 of the Las Vegas community, including his involvement with the
10 Clark County Commission, Nevada Development Authority,
11 Nevada Chamber of Commerce, Greater Las Vegas Chamber of
12 Commerce and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors' Authority;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Tom Wiesner showed an equal commitment to
15 developing educational resources in Las Vegas by serving on the
16 Clark County Community College Foundation, and then becoming a
17 charter member of the UNLV Foundation and later a UNLV
18 Foundation Trustee Emeritus and finally, because of his
19 contributions, he was inducted into the UNLV Foundation's Silver
20 Medallion Society and received the UNLV Silver State Award; and

21 WHEREAS, In addition to supporting education in Nevada, Tom
22 Wiesner also developed a love for his hometown team, the UNLV
23 Running Rebels, serving on the UNLV Football Foundation's
24 Advisory Board and, in recognition of his contributions to the sports
25 programs at UNLV, he was inducted into the UNLV Athletic Hall
26 of Fame and the Southern Nevada Sports Hall of Fame, and even
27 had a street named after him, Wiesner Way; and

28 WHEREAS, While Tom Wiesner was a big supporter of the
29 UNLV Rebels, his heart remained true to his University of
30 Wisconsin Badgers, a loyalty that was exemplified by his hosting of
31 the Badger Desert Golf Classic, a Wisconsin alumni fundraiser, for
32 the last 11 years in Las Vegas and his role in coordinating football
33 games between Wisconsin and UNLV, drawing thousands of
34 Wisconsin fans to Las Vegas for the games; and

35 WHEREAS, Among the many charities to which Tom Wiesner
36 devoted his time and provided financial support were the Boys and
37 Girls Clubs of Clark County, the United Way, the American Cancer
38 Society and Easter Seals of Clark County; and

39 WHEREAS, In 1996, Tom Wiesner ran unopposed for a seat on
40 the Board of Regents, where he remained a member until February
41 2002, when he resigned to spend time with his family, and in May
42 2002, the Board of Regents recognized his many contributions to the
43 State of Nevada by naming him a recipient of its highest honor, the
44 Distinguished Nevadan Award; and



1 WHEREAS, In addition to his love for Las Vegas and all things
2 Wisconsin, Tom Wiesner also had a love for the GOP, where he
3 served for nearly 2 decades as Republican National Committeeman,
4 was well known for his financial and moral support of the party, and
5 was named Republican Man of the Year in 1994; and

6 WHEREAS, Following his passing in June, UNLV instituted the
7 Tom Wiesner Award, to be given to a senior football player who
8 most exemplifies the leadership and courage that Tom Wiesner
9 displayed throughout his life; and

10 WHEREAS, Tom Wiesner is survived by his beloved wife, Lynn,
11 daughter Kari and son Kurt, all of Las Vegas, as well as a
12 granddaughter and five brothers; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
14 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the Senate and
15 Assembly extend their heartfelt sympathy to the family of Tom "Big
16 Dog" Wiesner; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That Tom Wiesner will long be remembered for his
18 compassion, honesty, quick wit and love of life, as well as his love
19 for the GOP, Las Vegas and all things Wisconsin; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the people of the State of Nevada will long
21 remember Tom Wiesner's generosity to this state and to his
22 community; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit
24 a copy of this resolution to Tom Wiesner's beloved wife, Lynn.

