

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 116

Introduced by Harr, 8; Baker, 30; Blood, 3; Chambers, 11; Craighead, 6; Crawford, 45; Hilkemann, 4; Howard, 9; Kolowski, 31; Krist, 10; Lindstrom, 18; McCollister, 20; McDonnell, 5; Murante, 49; Riepe, 12; Scheer, 19; Smith, 14; Vargas, 7; Wayne, 13.

WHEREAS, John E. Christensen, Ph.D., is recognized and honored for his years of service as the Chancellor of the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO); and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen is planning to retire from UNO at the end of June, pending the announcement of his successor; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen attended Omaha Benson High School and has been inducted into the Benson High School Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen was the first in his family to receive a college degree, earning a Bachelor of Science in speech communications and drama from Dana College, a Master of Science in special education and speech pathology from UNO, and a Ph.D. in speech pathology and audiology from the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen began his career at UNO in 1978 in the College of Education and later served as chair of the department, Dean of the College of Education, and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs; and

WHEREAS, in September 2006, Dr. Christensen was named interim Chancellor before being named Chancellor in May 2007; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen has presented at many conferences around the world, published numerous articles, and focused on community engagement and education; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen served as president of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities from 2010-2012; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Chancellor Christensen led UNO to achieve three of the University's strategic plan goals by serving the mission of strong

academic values and building a strong relationship with the community; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen has been honored with several awards including, most recently, the Omaha World-Herald 2016 Midlander of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor Christensen found ways to collaborate with Dr. John Langan, former dean of the UNO College of Education and president of the Omaha Public Schools Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature honors Chancellor John E. Christensen for his years of service to the University of Nebraska at Omaha and congratulates him on his retirement.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Chancellor John E. Christensen.