

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 137

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

WHEREAS, Ernest "Jack" Rokahr was born on September 17, 1922, and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Jack witnessed the Sower being placed atop the Nebraska State Capitol Building while an elementary student at Capitol School; and

WHEREAS, Jack is part of the Rokahr family of Lincoln, which includes five generations of University of Nebraska graduates; and

WHEREAS, Jack's father, Ernest Rokahr of Ernest Rokahr and Sons, constructed historic buildings such as Raymond Hall, Andrews Hall, the 14th Street Power Plant, the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house, and the Gamma Phi Beta sorority house; and

WHEREAS, Jack graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1948 with a degree in business; and

WHEREAS, Jack's career in international commerce includes twenty-three years in the United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration; and

WHEREAS, Jack is a veteran of World War II and recipient of the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three battle stars; and

WHEREAS, May of 2015, Jack was presented the French government's highest honor, the rank of knight in the National Order of the Legion of Honor; and

WHEREAS, Jack donated his extensive and valuable private collection of opera materials to the University of Nebraska in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Rokahr Family Archive housed at the University of Nebraska Music Library is the largest private opera collection in the United States and contains materials originating as early as 1764.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes the contributions of Ernest J. Rokahr to the State of Nebraska and commends his service to the United States of America.
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Ernest J. Rokahr.