

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 431

Introduced by Blood, 3; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Day, 49; DeBoer, 10; Hansen, M., 26; Hilgers, 21; Hunt, 8; McKinney, 11; Walz, 15.

WHEREAS, Kathy Hoell became the first Executive Director of the Nebraska Statewide Independent Living Council in 2003 and retained that position until her retirement in December 2021.

WHEREAS, Kathy expanded the activities, outreach, and collaboration of the council and focused on promoting independence for people with disabilities. Kathy was a consistent figure at the Legislature and educated senators about disability rights, independent living, and accessibility.

WHEREAS, Kathy gave impetus to legislation improving employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and worked with capitol officials to address accessibility issues at the Legislature. Over her career, Kathy worked with numerous state officials and policymakers to provide a disability perspective in policy making and on a variety of state initiatives.

WHEREAS, Kathy provided numerous trainings and presentations to educate countless Nebraskans with disabilities about advocacy, empowerment, and self-determination.

WHEREAS, Kathy is recognized nationally for her advocacy and leadership. She held a prominent position in the voting rights subcommittee of the National Council on Independent Living and received the 2005 Earl Walden Award for Outstanding Rural Advocacy from the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living.

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

1. That the Legislature thanks Kathy Hoell for her decades of service to the disability community and to Nebraska.
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Kathy Hoell.