

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 139

Introduced by Ibach, 44; Andersen, 49; Arch, 14; Armendariz, 18; Ballard, 21; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; Conrad, 46; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Dover, 19; Dungan, 26; Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Hallstrom, 1; Hansen, 16; Hardin, 48; Holdcroft, 36; Hughes, 24; Jacobson, 42; Juarez, 5; Kauth, 31; Lippincott, 34; Lonowski, 33; McKeon, 41; McKinney, 11; Meyer, 17; Moser, 22; Murman, 38; Prokop, 27; Quick, 35; Raybould, 28; Riepe, 12; Rountree, 3; Sorrentino, 39; Spivey, 13; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Strommen, 47; von Gillern, 4; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, Dan Hughes of Venango, Nebraska, is recognized for his outstanding contributions to the protection and management of Nebraska's natural resources and was inducted into the Nebraska Natural Resources Districts Hall of Fame in the Supporter Category on September 23, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Hughes, a third-generation farmer from rural southwest Nebraska, developed an early understanding of the critical importance of water and carried this knowledge into his public service as the senator for Nebraska's 44th District from 2015 to 2022; and

WHEREAS, upon his election to the Nebraska Legislature, Hughes immediately joined the Natural Resources Committee, serving as a member from 2015 to 2022 and as its chairman from 2017 to 2021, where he played a key role in shaping legislation related to water, agriculture, the environment, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, Hughes provided steady leadership on complex water policy issues, ensuring Nebraska maintained compliance with interstate water agreements while protecting the rights of landowners and irrigators through practical, consensus-driven policymaking; and

WHEREAS, Hughes effectively defended Nebraska's longstanding water law and resource management framework; and safeguarded Nebraska's water resources for future generations; and

WHEREAS, following his tenure in the Legislature, Hughes continues his commitment to conservation as the District 5 commissioner for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, ensuring the continued protection and responsible

management of Nebraska's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Hughes remains an active steward of the land, managing his family farm in Venango while instilling in his children the values of conservation, sustainability, and the responsible use of natural resources.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates Dan Hughes on his induction into the Nebraska Natural Resources Districts Hall of Fame in the Supporter Category.

2. That the Legislature recognizes Dan Hughes for his steadfast dedication to Nebraska's natural resources, his leadership in public policy, and his lasting impact on water and land management.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dan Hughes.