ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 310

Introduced by Krist, 10; Avery, 28; Coash, 27; Conrad, 46; Fulton, 29; Giese, 17; Haar, 21; Hadley, 37; Janssen, 15; Karpisek, 32; McGill, 26; Price, 3; Sullivan, 41.

WHEREAS, the 155th Air Refueling Wing of the Nebraska Air National Guard distinguished itself as an Air Force Outstanding Unit through exceptionally meritorious service during the period of July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, during this same period, the unit distinguished itself by successfully employing its mobilized and volunteer-unit members in support of homeland defense, Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom, and a host of expeditionary combat-support deployments; and

WHEREAS, the unit's personnel and assigned Stratotanker aircraft performed brilliantly in the execution of worldwide missions of vital importance to our strategic national interests and excelled in operational readiness, flying and ground safety, energy conservation, environmental protection, community involvement, and compliance inspections; and

WHEREAS, the unit flew more than five thousand seven hundred hours of operational training with over one thousand two hundred hours of combat or combat-support missions; and

WHEREAS, fifty-eight aircrew members were recognized with Flying Hour Safety Award milestones by the AMC Safety Center, and

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the unit has accumulated over one hundred fifteen thousand Class A/B mishap-free flying hours while performing global combat, combat support, and training missions; and

WHEREAS, the unit maintained a 95.9% retention rate and 104% unit strength; and

WHEREAS, the unit received the Air National Guard Director's Challenge Award for exceeding 120% of individual recruiting goals in fiscal year 2008; and

WHEREAS, the unit received inspection ratings of Excellent, Outstanding, 100% Compliance, Best Seen to Date, and Best and was validated well above the bar for Mission Readiness; and

WHEREAS, the unit continued its history of outstanding community service by providing orientation flights for over five hundred community leaders, hosting events for more than one thousand American Legion Boys and Girls State participants, providing aerospace instruction to more than two thousand at risk fifth-grade students through STARBASE Nebraska, holding community blood drives, supporting the 2008 National Veterans Wheelchair Games, and being recognized as the largest regional contributor to the Combined Federal Campaign and for increasing participation in the campaign by 50%; and

WHEREAS, sections and individual unit members have been recognized for superior achievement, including 2008 Air National Guard Comptroller Organization of the Year, 2007 Kenneth W. Disney Award, Air National Guard Best Food Services Program, thirty-eight Nebraska National Guard Emergency Service awards for support of Hurricane Gustav, Public Affairs writing awards, and the Air

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National Guard Chief of Staff Team Spirit Excellence Award.

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

1. That the Legislature hereby congratulates and extends its appreciation to the men and women of the 155th Air Refueling Wing of the Nebraska Air National Guard on earning their tenth Air Force Outstanding Unit Award and thanks them for their excellent service to this state and nation.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Adjutant General of the Nebraska National Guard, Brigadier General Judd H. Lyons.