

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 115

Introduced by Holdcroft, 36; Bosn, 25; Bostar, 29; Clouse, 37; Dorn, 30; Fredrickson, 20; Guereca, 7; Juarez, 5; Kauth, 31; Lonowski, 33; Sanders, 45; Spivey, 13; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, Walter "Thane" Baker is the oldest living male United States Olympic medalist in track and the second oldest in the world; and

WHEREAS, Thane was born in Elkhart, Kansas, on October 4, 1931; and

WHEREAS, Thane enrolled at Kansas State University, joined the track team as a walk-on, and earned numerous accolades, including the 1953 NCAA championship in the 220-yard dash; and

WHEREAS, Thane participated in the 1952 Summer Olympics in Helsinki, Finland, and earned a silver medal in the 200-meter event wearing borrowed shoes from Kansas State University; and

WHEREAS, Thane also competed in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, where he won a gold medal in the 400-meter relay event with the United States team, a silver medal in the 100-meter event, and a bronze medal in the 200-meter event; and

WHEREAS, Thane resides in Bellevue, Nebraska, and has kept track in his life by officiating for fifty-five years and mentoring others; and

WHEREAS, Thane is one of the greatest runners and Olympians in the history of Nebraska and the United States.

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

1. That the Legislature honors Walter "Thane" Baker for his many incredible accomplishments in the sport of track and field and his extraordinary success in the 1952 and 1956 Summer Olympics.

2. That copies of this resolution be sent to Walter "Thane" Baker and his family.