

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14—Senators Woodhouse; Amodei, Breeden, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Copening, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Parks, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Kihuen; Aizley, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Dondero Loop, Gansert, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Gustavson, Hambrick, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Manendo, Mastroluca, McArthur, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Spiegel, Stewart and Woodbury

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Honoring Thalia Dondero for her outstanding service to the Nevada System of Higher Education and community organizations.

WHEREAS, In 1942, Thalia Sperry moved to Las Vegas where she met and married Harvey Dondero, a career teacher and administrator, and the couple began a long partnership promoting education in Nevada, a passion for both of them; and

WHEREAS, Having five children, Judy, Michael, Nick, Rob and Marilyn, and not being one to do anything halfway, Thalia dove into the job of parenting by becoming active in all levels of the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts and the Parent Teacher Association, and was twice selected “Homemaker of the Year” from Nevada for *McCall’s Magazine*, while the Dondero family was nominated “Family of the Year” and Thalia has continued this rich tradition of enjoying spending time with her family including the 15 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren of whom she is very proud; and

WHEREAS, Thalia’s interests are many, including human rights, water issues, tourism, law enforcement, renewable energy and the environment, and she became known as the “Tree Lady” because of her work on the Nevada State Park Commission to expand state-owned recreational areas for public use; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, Thalia became the first woman commissioner on the Clark County Commission, serving with distinction for 20 years, including three terms as chair, and a



well-known anecdote is that her male peers mistakenly thought, being a woman, she should take minutes and make coffee, a notion she quickly rectified; and

WHEREAS, Elected to the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education in 1996, Thalia fought to improve the higher education system, was instrumental in the formation of Nevada State College and became an advocate for the Health Sciences System, which was created to address the numerous community health issues of our State, and while Thalia gave up her seat on the Board because of term limits, she still continues to give an incredible amount of time, energy and commitment to education; and

WHEREAS, Among many other honors, Thalia received the 2006 Education Hero Award from the Public Education Foundation and the 2008 James Cashman III Community Leader Award, was inducted last month into the Nevada Business Hall of Fame, and in 2007, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, awarded her its highest honor, an Honorary Doctorate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature applaud Thalia Dondero for her unwavering dedication and commitment to the education of the young people of our State and commend her unique sense of civic duty in serving her community to improve the quality of life for all Nevadans; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the residents of Nevada recognize that they have a true champion in Thalia who believes that higher education should be accessible to everyone and who exemplifies that each person can make a difference in their community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Thalia Dondero.

