

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring Senator James W. Merritt, Jr. upon his retirement from the Indiana State Senate.

BOOTS

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE RESOLUTION _____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring Senator James W.
2 Merritt, Jr. upon his retirement from the Indiana State Senate.

3 *Whereas, Senator James W. Merritt, Jr. faithfully and*
4 *honorably served the constituents of Senate District 31,*
5 *encompassing portions of Marion and Hamilton counties, from*
6 *1990 through 2020;*

7 *Whereas, Senator Merritt was a vital member of the Senate*
8 *Majority Caucus for 30 years, serving as Majority Caucus*
9 *Chairman, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Utilities, and*
10 *as a member of the Senate Committees on Commerce and*
11 *Technology, Homeland Security and Transportation, Public*
12 *Policy, Rules and Legislative Procedure, and Veterans Affairs*
13 *and the Military;*

14 *Whereas, During his tenure with the Indiana State Senate,*
15 *Senator Merritt worked to enact policy that promoted the well-*
16 *being of Hoosiers across the State of Indiana, including*
17 *Aaron's Law, Indiana's Lifeline Law, bringing the 211 service*
18 *to the state, Indiana's Safe Haven Law, and sponsoring*
19 *legislation for the "Kids First" license plate;*



1 *Whereas, Senator Merritt led the way on streamlining*
2 *government services by authoring legislation that increased*
3 *efficiency at the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles branches*
4 *across the state;*

5 *Whereas, Senator Merritt's passion to preserve our state's*
6 *history was evident in his work to conserve Indiana's two state*
7 *constitutions, along with writing the book "Passing the Torch:*
8 *Preserving Indiana's Heritage" which helped raise awareness*
9 *about the value of historic preservation;*

10 *Whereas, For his servant's heart and commitment to the*
11 *State of Indiana, Senator Merritt has been recognized with*
12 *numerous awards, including being named the 2001 National*
13 *Legislator of the Year, and served as a member of the Council*
14 *of State Governments' Toll Fellowship program; and*

15 *Whereas, Senator Merritt's compassion, leadership in every*
16 *aspect of his service, and unquestioned integrity will be greatly*
17 *missed in the Indiana State Senate and throughout the State*
18 *House: Therefore,*

19 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
20 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

21 SECTION 1. That the Indiana State Senate honors Senator
22 James W. Merritt, Jr. upon his retirement and thanks him for his
23 many years of service to the Indiana State Senate.

24 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
25 to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Merritt and his
26 family.

