

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6034

A RESOLUTION in memory of Justice Robert Gernon.

WHEREAS, Kansas Supreme Court Justice Robert Gernon died March 30 from complications with cancer. He was 61 years of age; and

WHEREAS, He was appointed to the Kansas Court of Appeals in 1988 and to the Kansas Supreme Court in 2003. He was with the majority in the case declaring the state's death penalty unconstitutional and wrote a controversial opinion regarding whether a transsexual could be considered a woman in a marriage, an opinion noted for its blending of medical science and law; and

WHEREAS, Justice Gernon was heavily involved in mentoring young attorneys. He also organized continuing legal seminars for veteran attorneys and helped organize the Kansas Bar Association's annual review of law. Appointed to the supreme court by Governor Graves, Justice Gernon was praised by Governor Sebelius saying, "His fairness and integrity made him a valued member of the Kansas Supreme Court"; and

WHEREAS, Justice Gernon was born in Sabetha and graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in business administration. He obtained his law degree from Washburn University in 1969. He worked as a probation officer in Shawnee County before graduating from law school and later worked as a private attorney and assistant district attorney. He was appointed as a district judge in 1979 on the same court his father had served; and

WHEREAS, He is survived by two daughters, Rebecca Gernon Wilson and Kristin Gernon, both of whom were with him at the time of his death: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Justice Gernon and thank him for the many years of devoted service he gave to the bench and bar of this state.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*