

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1835

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Sheriff Jack Mendenhall.

WHEREAS, Jack Mendenhall of La Crosse has retired after 42½ years as Rush County Sheriff—the longest serving sheriff in state history. He was honored at a retirement reception on January 10; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Mendenhall was appointed to fill in the last six months of his first term on June 1, 1962, and was elected for the following two-year term. Since under existing law at the time he could not run again, his wife, Sharon, was elected sheriff and he served as undersheriff. The law was changed permitting subsequent terms, and he has been reelected until he chose not to stand for election in the 2004 general election; and

WHEREAS, During his career he has investigated three murders, uncountable drug cases, airplane crashes and kidnappings. A girl that was kidnapped and released through Sheriff Mendenhall's efforts put her arms around him and would not let go until they arrived at the sheriff's office; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Mendenhall says the biggest changes he has seen in law enforcement have been in technical developments. Records can be transmitted electronically to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and information received in the same manner. He states that one of his greatest accomplishments was the establishment of the emergency 911 system for Rush County; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Mendenhall has been described as a man who was fully dedicated to his work in law enforcement, a loving husband to his wife, a wonderful father to his children and the best possible grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Mendenhall and his wife Sharon are the parents of two children, Cheryl Moeder and Jody Mendenhall, and two grandsons, Matthew and Marcus Moeder. Sharon, his wife for 45 years, died unexpectedly this past August 31 and is sorely missed by all. Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Sheriff Mendenhall for his long and valiant career in the field of law enforcement and hope that he finds happiness and fulfillment in his retirement years; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Lee.

Senate Resolution No. 1835 was sponsored by Senator Janis K. Lee.

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

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*