

House Resolution No. 6013

By Representatives O'Neal, Billinger, Alford, Arpke, Aurand, Ballard, Bethell, Bollier, Boman, Bowers, Brookens, Brown, Bruchman, Brunk, Burgess, Burroughs, Calloway, Carlin, Carlson, Cassidy, Collins, Colloton, Crum, Davis, DeGraaf, Denning, Dillmore, Donohoe, Fawcett, Feuerborn, Finney, Flaharty, Frownfelter, Fund, Garber, D. Gatewood, S. Gatewood, Goico, Gonzalez, Goodman, Gordon, Grange, Gregory, Grosserode, Hayzlett, Hedke, Henderson, Henry, Hermanson, Hildabrand, Hill, Hineman, Hoffman, C. Holmes, M. Holmes, Howell, Huebert, Johnson, Kelley, Kelly, Kerschen, Kiegerl, Kinzer, Kleeb, Knox, Kuether, Landwehr, Lane, Loganbill, Mah, Mast, McCray-Miller, McLeland, Meier, Meigs, Mesa, Montgomery, Mosier, Moxley, O'Brien, O'Hara, Osterman, Otto, Patton, Pauls, Peck, Peterson, Phelps, Pottorff, Powell, Prescott, Proehl, Rhoades, Roth, Rubin, Ruiz, Ryckman, Scapa, Schroeder, Schwab, Schwartz, Seiwert, Shultz, Siegfried, Slattery, Sloan, Smith, Spalding, Suellentrop, Swanson, Tietze, Trimmer, Tyson, Vickrey, Victors, Ward, Weber, Wetta, Williams, Winn, K. Wolf, B. Wolf, Wolfe Moore and Worley

3-7

1 A RESOLUTION in memory of Dr. Jim Morrison.

2 WHEREAS, Jim Morrison, 68, of Colby, died November 24,
3 2010. A former Kansas legislator, he served in the House of
4 Representatives from 1992 to 2010; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison was born April 11, 1942, in Colby to
6 Pete and Louise Morrison. Dr. Morrison *attended Colby public schools,*
7 *graduating from high school in 1960,* the University of Kansas from 1960
8 to 1964, majoring in Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, and the
9 Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, where he
10 received his Doctor of Optometry degree in 1967. Dr. Morrison served as
11 an optometrist for the community of Colby for 41 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison is remembered for his commitment to
13 his constituency from House District No. 121, for serving as Chairperson
14 of the Health and Human Services Committee, the Committee on
15 Government Efficiency and Fiscal Oversight, the Joint Committee on
16 Information Technology, the Joint Committee on Computers and
17 Telecommunications, the Select Committee on Information Management,
18 and as a member of the House Education Committee and the Health Care
19 Fund Oversight Stabilization Committee; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison was also active in numerous
21 community and civic organizations, including Educational Service
22 Centers (formerly known as the Northwest Kansas Educational
23 Diagnostic and Referral Center for Children, Inc.), Kansas Association
24 for Children with Learning Disabilities, Fellow American Academy of

1 Optometry, Kansas Optometric Association, Colby Lions Club, Colby
2 Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club. Additionally, in 2011, the Kansas
3 Alliance of Advanced Nurse Practitioners recognized Dr. Morrison as the
4 NP Advocate of the year; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Morrison married his grade school friend and
6 high school sweetheart, Karen Jean Carr, on August 25, 1963. They are
7 the parents of three sons, Mike Morrison, Jeff Morrison, and Scott
8 Morrison, and one daughter, Lisa Morrison, and 11 grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, The state has lost a valiant leader. During his years
10 in the legislature, Dr. Morrison worked tirelessly for his constituents not
11 only in representing their needs but also by communicating to them the
12 issues covered in that day's session. Dr. Morrison was instrumental in
13 passing SB 5 in 1997, which created oversight for all state agency
14 information technology purchases, saving the state millions of dollars.
15 During the legislative session, Dr. Morrison was known to send 80 daily
16 faxes (before email became ubiquitous) to interested constituents and
17 community leaders, provided two daily radio broadcasts on local radio
18 stations, and wrote a bimonthly column for the Hays Daily News: Now,
19 therefore,

20 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of*
21 *Kansas:* That we extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends
22 of Jim Morrison and thank him for the years of public service he gave to
23 his state and community; and

24 *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of
25 Representatives provide five enrolled copies of this resolution to
26 Representative Billinger.