

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to memorialize and honor H. John Okeson for his lifetime of dedicated service to the people of Indiana.

MERRITT

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to memorialize and honor H. John Okeson for his lifetime of dedicated service to the people of Indiana.

Whereas, on April 1, 2008, the people of Indiana lost one of their most beloved sons and servants with the passing of H. John Okeson;

Whereas, John was born and raised in Fort Wayne; he graduated from Carroll High School in 1982, received his bachelor's degree from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne in 1986, and obtained his law degree from the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis in 1989; during his time in private law practice, he was a member of the law firms of Baker & Daniels and also Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman;

Whereas, John spent a significant part of his career in public life, first serving the people of Indiana when he was elected as the Indiana Clerk of the Courts at the young age of 30 in 1990;

Whereas, John also served as Legislative Director for the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration in 2005, and then as Senior Legislative Counsel to Governor Mitch Daniels in 2006 and 2007; Governor Daniels honored John with an Distinguished Hoosier Award in 2007 for his



tireless dedication and service to the people of Indiana;

Whereas, John enjoyed long runs and competing in triathalons with family and friends. He was an avid golfer who laughed a lot. He loved his church, his hometown, and his state;

Whereas, John was an outstanding individual. He lived by his strong faith and courage. He was a mentor and role model to so many more than he likely knew. He inspired others not only through his calm words, but his principled actions. He took on others' burdens as his own, and was respected and liked by all. He was a true gentleman;

Whereas, above all of his many interests and accomplishments, what John loved the most was being a devoted and loving father to his three children; and

Whereas, the members of the Indiana General Assembly and John's many friends and colleagues are all better for having known him. His absence since his passing has been felt by so many, and he leaves behind an example for all on how to live a full and enriching life. He will be missed by his friends and family tremendously: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses its
2 deepest admiration and appreciation for the lifetime of dedicated
3 service H. John Okeson gave to the people of Indiana.

4 SECTION 2. That his legacy of service and commitment to
5 Indiana will continue to serve as an inspiration to all Hoosiers.

6 SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
7 transmit a copy of this Resolution to John's mother, Betty; his two
8 brothers, David and Paul; each of his three children, Kale, Erin and
9 Abby, and their mother, Ellen.

