

MAR 11 2002

Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY LENSING, MYERS, MASCHER, and FOEGE

A Resolution recognizing the success of the University of Iowa Dance Marathon.

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa Dance Marathon began in 1994, and has operated in conjunction with the Children's Miracle Network to provide emotional and financial support to families with children treated by the Children's Hospital of Iowa at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, primarily those children being treated for cancer; and

WHEREAS, during its existence, the University of Iowa Dance Marathon has generated over \$2 million, has grown from sponsoring 26 families to sponsoring 200 families, and has become one of the largest student-run philanthropies in the western United States; and

WHEREAS, the support provided to these children and families by the dance marathon continues throughout the year in the form of payment of patient bills, camper sponsorship for the Heart Connection's summer camps, Friday breakfasts at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, research, children's materials, and many other events and supports; and

WHEREAS, during the dance marathon held February 1 through February 2, 2002, 900 marathoners danced for 24 hours with the support of over 400 additional volunteers to raise \$519,990.70; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics named its pediatric blood and marrow transplant unit the "UI Dance Marathon Pediatric Blood

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1 and Marrow Transplant Unit" to honor the hard work,
2 dedication, and financial contributions of the dance
3 marathoners; and

4 WHEREAS, beginning in April 2002, the unit will
5 provide state-of-the-art cancer treatment and, as
6 importantly, will provide space for family members to
7 sleep in the same room with the child receiving
8 treatments and through a special filtration system
9 will enable children to leave their rooms while
10 recovering from a transplant; and

11 / WHEREAS, a record 600 family members from the 200
12 sponsored families attended the 2002 marathon to
13 demonstrate their gratitude and support of the
14 marathoners; and

15 WHEREAS, in the words of pediatric blood and marrow
16 transplant unit director Dr. Fred Goldman, "... it's
17 difficult to express the depth of our gratitude for
18 what these wonderful dedicated people have done"; NOW
19 THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
21 That the House of Representatives adds its words of
22 gratitude to the University of Iowa Dance Marathon
23 participants for their determination, unflagging
24 spirit, and support of children and their families who
25 are fighting cancer and other diseases, and wishes the
26 University of Iowa Dance Marathon success in its
27 future efforts; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of
29 Representatives recommends that all adult Iowans take
30 on the challenge of Ms. Kristin Vasilenko, Morale

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1 Captain 2002 for the Iowa Dance Marathon, who stated:
2 "If I could encourage you all to do one important
3 thing with your life it would be to have a special
4 relationship with a child; they can teach you more
5 than you would ever imagine."

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