

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 162
2 BY TINSMAN, WARD, DEARDEN, HATCH,
3 McCOY, ZAUN, and LAMBERTI
4 A Resolution to recognize the new Des Moines Public
5 Library.
6 WHEREAS, the Gateway West Park is an ambitious
7 effort to transform the face of downtown Des Moines
8 and a key component of that effort is now complete:
9 the new two-story, \$32.3 million central library; and
10 WHEREAS, this imaginative 110,000-square-foot
11 meandering structure was officially opened on April 8,
12 2006, incorporating a library within a park; and
13 WHEREAS, the new building features a popular
14 library with more books, more media, and more space
15 for special collections, expanded access to new and
16 existing library services, a teen center and study
17 rooms, an expanded children's area, and a separate
18 story hour and crafts room; and
19 WHEREAS, London architect David Chipperfield's 21st
20 century design for the two-story library consists of
21 three wings, each offering different elements to the
22 public, all sheathed in a shimmering copper mesh; and
23 WHEREAS, architect Chipperfield is no stranger to
24 Iowa, having recently completed the Figge Art Museum
25 in Davenport; and
26 WHEREAS, credit for the project also goes to the
27 library's director, Kay Runge, the former director of
28 the Davenport Public Library who came to Des Moines in
29 2001 to oversee the construction of the city's new
30 central library; and

1 WHEREAS, Director Runge's vision for this
2 remarkable new library can best be summed up in her
3 own words: "The public library has been the center of
4 lifelong learning for all who live in this republic:
5 A place where the doors are open to persons of any
6 race, educational level, age, social standing,
7 economic status, or political persuasion."; NOW
8 THEREFORE,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
10 recognizes and extends its congratulations to the city
11 of Des Moines and Director Runge for their bold
12 efforts to put a new face on Iowa's capital city with
13 this remarkable new public library.

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