

A Senate resolution

honoring the life and service of Eng Lia Her.

**WHEREAS**, Eng Lia Her was born in 1957 in Luang Prabang, Laos, to father Xia Sau Hawj and mother Vab Thoj; and

**WHEREAS**, from 1970 to 1974, Her served as a soldier in the Special Guerilla Unit under General Vang Pao and from 1975 to 1978, he was discharged after the war and worked as a construction worker paving the major road number 13 from Luang Prabang to Vang Vieng in Laos; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1978, the Lao Communist regime began purging former American insurgents, leaving Her to escape into and live in the jungles of Laos; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 1979, Her married Cho Lee and after three years living in the jungles of Laos, he and his family arrived in the Ban Vinai Refugee Camp in Thailand in 1981; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 1981, Her and his family came to St. Paul and made Minnesota their home; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1983, Her and his family moved to Eureka, California, still maintaining very strong involvement in the Hmong community in Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, in Eureka, he received an A.S. degree to be an auto mechanic and worked at an auto shop for 15 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Her and his wife had eight children and they now have eight grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, he is a cultural advisor as a Mej Koob (Hmong marriage broker) and a Kav Xwm (Hmong traditional funeral advisor); and

**WHEREAS**, he is a Chair of a family nonprofit called Dawb Cawv Liag to preserve the Hmong language and culture and served as a New Year Chair for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, Her retired in 2018 at the age of 60 but continues to be active in both the Hmong Minnesota and California communities pushing economic growth and the continuation of higher education in Hmong youth; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it honors Eng Lia Her, who has been a true leader and pillar to the Hmong community, and commends him for his outstanding military service and service to his community, state, and country.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Eng Lia Her.

Cal R. Ludeman  
Secretary of the Senate

Paul E. Gazelka  
Chair, Senate Committee on  
Rules and Administration

Foung Hawj  
State Senator, District 67