A Senate resolution

honoring Pao Lee Vang for his contributions to his community and the state of Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Pao Lee Vang was born on December 1, 1966, in Ban Dendin, Houaphan, in northern Laos to parents Kia Cha Vang and Chia Lor; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 1981, while visiting the capital city Vientiane, Pao and two other boys swam across the Mekong River. Pao hoped to join his brothers in the United States, and after two years in Ban Vinai Refugee Camp in Thailand, with the help of the MINOR program, he received political asylum in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pao arrived in St. Paul, Minnesota, in February 1984 and was reunited with his brothers, Chong Tong and Lee Paul, and lived in McDonough Homes; and

WHEREAS, Pao graduated from Johnson High School in 1987 and finished his social work degree from Presentation College in South Dakota in 1989; and

WHEREAS, Pao married his wife Chee Yang in 1989 and together they have three sons: Blong, Shueleng, and Tou Yeng; and two daughters: Mai Yer and Kabao; and

WHEREAS, Pao served on the Ramsey County Sheriff Reserve Water Patrol from 2002 to 2014; and

WHEREAS, from 2002 to 2005 Pao volunteered to be assistant to the scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 122 in St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, from 2012 to the present, Pao has dedicated his life to gathering Hmong news for the community and started his own online channel, Hmoob Twin Cities News; and

WHEREAS, Pao and his wife Chee Yang continue to dedicate their services and passions to help elders and people experiencing homelessness, to care for church members, and to be good role models for their kin; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it honors Pao Lee Vang and his many years of outstanding service to his community and state.

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 Pao Lee Vang.

Cal R. Ludeman Secretary of the Senate Jeremy R. Miller Chair, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration

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