

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.R. No. 28

(SENATE AUTHORS: HAWJ)

DATE
03/23/2023

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Introduction
Referred to Rules and Administration

OFFICIAL STATUS

A Senate resolution

celebrating the 45th wedding anniversary of Chertoua Yang and Kazoua Xiong.

WHEREAS, Chertoua Yang was born in Laos on August 4, 1954, to Nhiakoua Yang and Kaying Xiong, as the oldest of seven children. His father was a former foot soldier in the French Army; and

WHEREAS, Chertoua was raised in the Sam Neua region of Laos and attended various schools from 1962 to 1970 as his family moved around during the war. His family moved from the Sam Neua region to the Xieng Khouang region where he completed his education at an equivalent to a fifth grade education; and

WHEREAS, Chertoua served as an anti-Communist resistance fighter, a member of the Royal Lao Military Police, and a Special Guerilla Unit soldier. After the war ended, former soldiers like Chertoua were detained and sent to re-education camps by the new communist regime; and

WHEREAS, Chertoua married the love of his life, Kazoua Xiong, in March 1978. In September 1994, Chertoua and Kazoua resettled their family in the United States. They were political refugees with the International Organization for Migration and settled in Fresno, California, before moving to Minnesota to be closer to extended family and to seek a better life for their children; and

WHEREAS, today, Chertoua is a proud American and lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Kazoua Xiong, their ten children, and their many grandchildren. Chertoua is a Hmong community leader in Minneapolis, the former President of the Hmong American Leadership Council of Minnesota, Vice-President of SGU Veterans and Families of USA, Inc., and the former President of Lao Veterans of Minnesota. He also served on the board of directors of various nonprofits and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2023, Chertoua Yang and Kazoua Xiong will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary with their family, friends, and elected officials and community leaders; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it celebrates the 45th wedding anniversary of Chertoua Yang and Kazoua Xiong and extends best wishes to them and their family.

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 Chertoua Yang and Kazoua Xiong.

Tom Bottern
Secretary of the Senate

Kari Dziedzic
Chair, Senate Committee on
Rules and Administration

Foung Hawj
State Senator, District 67