WHEREAS, The members of the Nevada Legislature mourn the loss of Peter Aduja, prominent Filipino-American, public servant and community volunteer, who had many close ties with Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Peter Aduja lived the American dream, brought about by his own dedication and hard work, and became an example to others; and

WHEREAS, Born in the Philippines, Peter was 7 years of age when his family migrated to Hawaii, where he watched his father labor in the sugar fields for $1 a day; and

WHEREAS, Peter never forgot the hardships and sacrifices his parents made, telling his children that his family “slept on plain wooden boards and cooked over an open flame”; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from the University of Hawaii, Peter volunteered for the United States Army in World War II, serving with the First Filipino Infantry Regiment; and

WHEREAS, Peter knew the key to a better life was education and, after serving in the Army, used the G.I. Bill to attain his law degree from the Boston University School of Law, allowing him to further pursue his dreams and aspirations; and

WHEREAS, Peter became a public servant in many capacities, as a teacher, politician, attorney and district court judge, and became the first person of Filipino ancestry to win a seat in the United States House of Representatives and in the Hawaii State House of Representatives; and
WHEREAS, More than 30 community organizations were beneficiaries of Peter’s energy and social concern, including the Boy Scouts of America, the Salvation Army and Big Brothers of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, Peter is survived by his daughter Melodie Aduja, his son Jay Peter Aduja, and his two grandchildren William and Amber; and

WHEREAS, Daughter Melodie called her father her “mentor and backbone” and said that at age 86, he still did 5 miles a day on the stationary bike, swam laps in the pool and was very health conscious, living life to the fullest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature do hereby extend their heartfelt condolences to the family of Peter Aduja, a man of many achievements with a lifelong dedication to serving others; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Peter will remain a role model to many Americans through his many accomplishments, distinguished civic service and historical leadership; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to Peter’s daughter Melodie and his son Jay Peter.