

Assembly Resolution No. 9—Assemblymen Hambrick,
Paul Anderson and Kirkpatrick

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION—Adding former Assemblywoman
Peggy Pierce to the Assembly Wall of Distinction.

WHEREAS, The Assembly of the Legislature of the State of Nevada has established an Assembly Wall of Distinction for those past members of the Assembly selected by leadership who served with great distinction and who made exemplary contributions to the State of Nevada; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Comstock “Peggy” Pierce was born in 1954 in Milton, Massachusetts, the seventh of eight children, whose parents were active in the civil rights movement; and

WHEREAS, As a teenager, Peggy and her family lived in the Midwest, but by the early 1970s Peggy struck out on her own and moved to San Francisco, where she lived for 16 years, then moved to Las Vegas in 1988 to pursue her hopes of becoming a professional singer; and

WHEREAS, Peggy supported herself by working as a food server in a major hotel and later became an active labor representative on behalf of people who work in the culinary industry; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was first elected to the Nevada Assembly in November 2002 and served in leadership as Chief Deputy Whip in 2011 and Senior Chief Deputy Whip in 2013, with her committee work primarily focused on three standing committees: Government Affairs, Health and Human Services, and Taxation; and

WHEREAS, During her service, Assemblywoman Pierce was the primary sponsor of successful legislation concerning elder abuse, permanent total disabilities, employees of senior housing facilities, hospice care, motor vehicles, the protection of personal identifying information, statutory liens, fire protection, guardianships, recycling, safety in children’s products, prevailing wage, and warnings regarding the hazards of smoking during pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, In the interim period between legislative sessions, Assemblywoman Pierce served on a number of study committees and task forces, including the Advisory Board for the Nevada Task Force for Technological Crime, the Advisory Board on Maternal and Child Health, the Legislative Committee for Local Government Taxes and Finance, the Legislative Committee on Public Lands Subcommittee to Study Wilderness Areas and Wilderness Study Areas, the Legislative Committee on Health Care and the Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional



Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System, which she also chaired; and

WHEREAS, Peggy maintained particular interest and advocacy in all matters where the people were largely without a voice and was deeply committed to quality public education, clean energy, improved air quality, environmental protection, workers' rights and women's issues; and

WHEREAS, Frustrated that Nevada continued to lag behind most other states in education and quality-of-life issues, Peggy zealously advocated measures that would increase the revenue needed to improve Nevada's rankings; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was first diagnosed with cancer near the start of her legislative career, survived three recurrences of the disease and courageously battled that foe through six regular and eight special sessions, including the last days of the 2013 Session of the Nevada Legislature, when the ravages of the disease forced her to work while confined to a wheelchair, where she continued to serve and vote on remaining legislative measures; and

WHEREAS, In the many tributes concerning the life of Peggy Pierce, a number of descriptions helped frame all that she was, descriptive words such as courageous, principled, thoughtful, dedicated, smart, passionate, tenacious, committed, compassionate and respected; and

WHEREAS, The legacy of Peggy Pierce will live on in those causes she believed in and fought for and in her dedication to enhance the lives of so many; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That, for her many years of dedicated service to the Assembly, Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce is hereby added to the Assembly Wall of Distinction.

