

Senate Resolution No. 6—Senators Cannizzaro, Seevers Gansert; Buck, Daly, Donate, Dondero Loop, Flores, Goicoechea, Hammond, Hansen, D. Harris, Krasner, Lange, Neal, Nguyen, Ohrenschall, Pazina, Scheible, Spearman, Stone and Titus

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE RESOLUTION—Inducting Claire Jesse Clift as an honorary member into the Senate Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, Claire J. Clift was born in Reno and raised in Carson City, where she graduated from Carson High School and Western Nevada College and afterward worked for 11 seasons for the United States Forest Service in North Fork, Idaho, where she met her husband Jim, a whitewater rafting guide, and learned that one’s survival depends on self-reliance and the ability to make tough decisions; and

WHEREAS, As a fifth-generation Nevadan, her ancestry includes great-great-grandfathers who were pioneer settlers, one of whom, Daniel Clark Simpson, established a trading post and served as an Assemblyman in 1871, another, William George Harris, who was a miner who helped build the Sutro Tunnel, and her great uncle, Forest Lovelock, and uncle, Coe Swobe, who both served in the Senate and her grandfather, Hugo Quilici, who was mayor of Reno; and

WHEREAS, Claire’s state service began in the Nevada Senate as a Committee Secretary for the Senate Committee on Natural Resources in 1987 and 1989, where she learned the legislative process and experienced the in-depth vetting of bills through testimony, discussion and amendments, and after a brief time away, she returned to the Senate as the Media Clerk under the tutelage of then-Secretary of the Senate, Jan Thomas, and in this position helped develop and improve computer programs as the liaison for information systems to assist the Legislature as it entered the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Upon the retirement of her predecessor, Claire Clift was appointed as the Secretary of the Senate, continuing a long-standing tradition of holding an elected position of public service in her family, served as Secretary of the Senate during 9 regular sessions and 15 special sessions, which included the Senate’s first impeachment proceeding against a state constitutional officer, and with the support of legislative leadership, helped effect statutory changes to employment practices of session staff that affected



salaries, retirement vestment and opportunities for legislative staff to transfer employment to the state's classified service; and

WHEREAS, Claire's public service extended beyond Nevada, serving on two Mason's Manual Commissions with the National Conference of State Legislatures, as co-chair and chair, shepherding the manual to its decennial revision with the 2020 edition of *Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure*, as well as being active in the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries where she chaired multiple committees and served two terms on the ASLCS Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Claire Clift is remembered for her poise, professionalism and confidence, was well-respected by all who worked with her, and always kept the interests of the Senate and Legislature at heart; and

WHEREAS, The Senate of the Legislature of the State of Nevada wishes to recognize Claire J. Clift for her dedicated service and vast knowledge of parliamentary procedure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That, Claire Jesse Clift, for her decades of devoted service to the State of Nevada as Secretary of the Senate, is hereby inducted as an honorary member into the Senate Hall of Fame of the Legislature of the State of Nevada; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

