

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the honorable life and service of former Allen County Prosecutor and State Senator Walter P. Helmke.

LONG

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the honorable
2 life and service of former Allen County Prosecutor and State Senator
3 Walter P. Helmke.

4 *Whereas, Walter P. Helmke was born in Fort Wayne,*
5 *Indiana on December 28, 1927;*

6 *Whereas, Following the venerable footsteps of his father,*
7 *Walter E. Helmke, who was affectionately known as “Mr.*
8 *Republican,” Helmke devoted his own life to serving both his*
9 *community and state as well;*

10 *Whereas, Helmke received his B.A. from Indiana University*
11 *in 1950, and his J.D. from Valparaiso University in 1952;*

12 *Whereas, After practicing law for several years, Helmke*
13 *went on to serve as the Prosecuting Attorney of Allen County*
14 *from 1962 until 1970;*

15 *Whereas, Helmke was then elected to the Indiana State*
16 *Senate in 1970, where he was a champion of pro-life efforts;*

17 *Whereas, Senator Helmke served parts of Adams, Allen,*
18 *and DeKalb Counties until 1974;*

19 *Whereas, Following his elected service, Helmke continued*
20 *to practice law at Helmke Beams LLP and remained involved*
21 *in state government, serving as Governor Otis Bowen’s liaison*



1 *to the Indiana State Senate for several years;*

2 *Whereas, Active in his community, Helmke also served as*
 3 *Chairman of the Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce,*
 4 *Chairman of Indiana University-Purdue University Fort*
 5 *Wayne's (IPFW) Community Advisory Council, and Chairman*
 6 *of Parkview Memorial Hospital;*

7 *Whereas, For his professional achievements and ongoing*
 8 *support of local organizations, Helmke was a recipient of*
 9 *IPFW's Ralph E. Broyles Medal, the Allen County Bar*
 10 *Association's first Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Fort*
 11 *Wayne North Side Distinguished Alumni Award;*

12 *Whereas, Helmke and his loving wife of 67 years, Rowene,*
 13 *had three children together, seven grandchildren, and six great*
 14 *grandchildren; and*

15 *Whereas, Helmke passed away on January 20, 2016,*
 16 *surrounded by three generations of descendants, and will be*
 17 *remembered and missed by so many: Therefore,*

18 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*
 19 *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

20 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly memorializes
 21 the honorable life and service of its friend, Walter P. Helmke.

22 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
 23 transmit copies of this Resolution to Walter P. Helmke's son and
 24 former Fort Wayne mayor, Paul Helmke, and his daughter, Marsha
 25 Shirk.

