



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Dvorak, Bauer, DeVon, Niezgodski

A HOUSE RESOLUTION memorializing Father Theodore M. Hesburgh.

Whereas, Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., passed away on Thursday, February 26, 2015, at the age of 97;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh led the University of Notre Dame from 1952 through 1987, the longest tenure to date, transforming it into one of the nation's most prestigious and well-known universities;

Whereas, During his tenure as President of the University of Notre Dame, Father Hesburgh enlarged the campus, doubled the school's student body, welcomed women for the first time, and incorporated the spirit of open intellectual inquiry and

20152812

HR 1547/DI 84

2015



moral engagement that today defines Notre Dame;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh championed the civil rights of African Americans, the duty to the poor, and the fundamental human dignity of all persons;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh held a number of influential public positions, including terms as a founding member and chairman of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, chairperson of the Overseas Development Council, chairperson of the Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy, and as the permanent representative of the Holy See to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna from 1956 to 1970;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh held a variety of appointed positions under four popes and nine presidential administrations;

Whereas, In an effort to further commit Notre Dame to the pursuit of fundamental human rights for all, Father Hesburgh helped found the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame, as well as the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the university's law school;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh was born in Syracuse, New York, on May 25, 1917;

Whereas, Since his early childhood, Father Hesburgh wanted to be a priest;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh was ordained a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross on June 24, 1943, in South Bend;

Whereas, He studied at Notre Dame until his seminary sent him to Italy and studied in Rome until the outbreak of World War II;

Whereas, Father Hesburgh graduated from the Catholic University of America in 1945 with a doctorate in Sacred Theology;



Whereas, Father Hesburgh received both the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian awards, as well as more than 150 honorary degrees, the most ever awarded to a single individual; and

Whereas, Father Theodore M. Hesburgh dedicated his life to God, his country, and Notre Dame: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives honors the
2 memory of this outstanding man of God for his lifetime of dedicated
3 service to all.

4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
5 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the University of
6 Notre Dame.

