

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.R. No. 136

(SENATE AUTHORS: HAWJ)

DATE
05/09/2022

D-PG

OFFICIAL STATUS

Introduction
Referred to Rules and Administration

A Senate resolution

recognizing Kangyee Vang as a Hmong news media pioneer.

WHEREAS, Kangyee Vang was born on March 5, 1951, in Phatib, Houaphan Province, Laos, to Blaying Vang and Mai Moua; and

WHEREAS, he completed Lycée and served as a police officer in Long Cheng for two months in 1970 and later became a member of Special Guerrilla Units (SGU) where he served as the front infantryman from 1970 to 1975; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee married his first wife, Xai Yang, in September 1974. Following Xai Yang's death, Kangyee married his current wife, Chia Xiong, in September 1979 at Ban Vinai Refugee Camp in Thailand. As a responsible father, he did his best raising eleven children, including six girls and five boys; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee came to the United States as a refugee in December 1979 and lived in San Diego for three months, where he worked as a lead in the laundromat industry; and

WHEREAS, he moved to Minnesota in 1980 and was employed in assembly factory work and volunteered with the SGU, Lao Veteran, and Lao Family organizations to better the Hmong community in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee found his passion for public media in the late 1980s and volunteered with Hmong Media and Art Society, St. Paul Neighborhood Network, Minneapolis Television Network, Hmong Satellite TV, and Suab Hmong News; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee became a proud United States citizen on August 21, 1991; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee was recognized in 1995 by the NDC Community Television Public Access Channel 33 for his exemplary coverage of Hmong community events and New Year celebrations; and

WHEREAS, from 1995 to 1996, Kangyee volunteered as a production crew member on the renowned first Hmong-American weekly television program Kev Koom Siab (Path to Unity) on Twin Cities Public Television, produced by FOUNG HAWJ prior to his service as a Minnesota state senator; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee has volunteered thousands of hours, made personal sacrifices, and exhibited outstanding community spirit in his unwavering commitment in bringing important and relevant news to the community; and

WHEREAS, Kangyee Vang is a trailblazer in Hmong news media, paving the way and mentoring many people in current Hmong media. He has been tireless in his advocacy and work to provide a platform for the voices of the Hmong community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it commends Kangyee Vang for being a pioneer in Hmong news media and celebrates his legacy of dedication, enthusiasm, and outstanding public service to his community for over 35 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Kangyee Vang.

Cal R. Ludeman
Secretary of the Senate

Jeremy R. Miller
Chair, Senate Committee on
Rules and Administration

Foung Hawj
State Senator, District 67