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Tribute to Curt Bromm

John Owens University of Nebraska - Lincoln, jowens2@unl.edu

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TRIBUTE TO CURT BROMM NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Since growing up on the family farm, Curt Bromm has continued to maintain a strong-interest in agriculture and education as he developed his legal-practice in Wahoo and embarked on a career in public-service as a State Senator.

Curt Bromm was born at Oakland and graduated from Tekamah High School. He continued his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he received his baccalaureate degree in agriculture and then a law degree. Curt served as a second lieutenant in the U. S. Army.

A past president and member of the Wahoo School Board for "11 years, Curt served as chair of the Saunders County School Reorganization Board. He also served on the Wahoo Start Committee for physician recruitment, was a member of the Greater Wahoo Development Foundation, and a director of Wahoo Industries. He also was founding director of the Saunders County Youth Service System and served on the Governor's Water Council.

He is a veteran-member of the Community Liaison Committee of the Agricultural Research and Development Center near Mead,

which is operated by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Curt keeps up to date on major agricultural research and extension-education projects at the Center, and he provides critical-input into the future direction of projects.

Senator Bromm is a member of the Nebraska State Bar

Association and former-member and chair of the Association's Ethics

Committee. He also is a member of St. Werneeslaus Catholic Chareh.

His career in state government began with election to the Nebraska Legislature in 1992, followed by re-election in 1996 and 2000. Senator Bromm has served as a member and chair of the Transportation-and-Felecommunications Committee and a member of the Natural Resources, Rules and Redistricting committees. In 2002, he was elected Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature.

Since assuming the role of Speaker, he has been a major leader in the Legislature's efforts to find solutions to the budgetary crisis facing our state. Early in the process, he made it clear that while all state spending needed to be examined for reductions and departments and agencies had to be a part of the solution.

spending on education, K-12 and higher education, needed to remain a state priority for UEBRASKA'S FUTURE.

In his role as speaker during the past two years, Senator Bromm was able to bring together disparate forces in the Legislature and to negotiate a solution to the budget impasses. The final budget products of the Legislature clearly show his influence. Senator Bromm has been a staunch defender of programs that help Nebraska's agribusiness enterprises survive and prosper, including teaching, research, and extension-education programs of the University of Nebraska.

During the 2003 session of the Nebraska Legislature, Speaker
Bromm provided yeoman-service to Nebraskans by building a

<u>consensus</u> that education must be a priority. This had positive implications for K-12 education and post-secondary education. His leadership resulted in a budget that avoided extreme reductions which would have severely impaired the future of the University of Nebraska, our state, and the agricultural industry.

Many of us have had the opportunity to observe Senator

Bromm's dedication to public service during his years as a legislator

and as a member of the Wahoo community. He has long demonstrated a strong commitment to the State of Nebraska as a whole and to Nebraska agriculture in particular. Senator Bromm also understands the importance of public higher education to the future of Nebraska. He should be encouraged and rewarded across our state for the positive-values he portrays.

It is a distinct-honor to present this Public Service to Agriculture

Award to Senator Curt Bromm in recognition of his strong

commitment to K-12 education, to higher education, including the

University of Nebraska and its Institute of Agriculture and Natural

Resources, to Nebraska agriculture, and to the future of our state.