



SPONSOR: Sen. Sokola & Sen. Ennis & Sen. Lockman &  
Sen. Townsend & Rep. Longhurst & Rep. Mitchell &  
Rep. Schwartzkopf  
Sens. Bonini, Brown, Gay, Hansen, Hocker, Lawson,  
Lopez, Mantzavinos, S. McBride, Paradee, Pettyjohn,  
Pinkney, Poore, Richardson, Sturgeon, Walsh, Wilson;  
Reps. Baumbach, Bennett, Bentz, Bolden, Brady,  
Briggs King, Bush, Carson, Chukwuocha, Collins,  
Dorsey Walker, Gray, Griffith, Heffernan, K. Johnson,  
Kowalko, Matthews, Minor-Brown, S. Moore, Morris,  
Morrison, Osienski, Postles, Ramone, D. Short, Shupe,  
Smyk, Spiegelman, Vanderwende, K. Williams, Wilson-  
Anton, Yearick

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

HONORING THE MEMORY AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE RUTH ANN MINNER, FORMER GOVERNOR  
OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, The Honorable Ruth Ann Minner, Delaware's first female governor, departed this life peacefully and  
2 surrounded by family on November 4, 2021; and

3 WHEREAS, Governor Minner was raised near Milford and left high school at the age of 16 to work on the family  
4 farm; and

5 WHEREAS, she later married Frank Ingram and had three children, Gary, Frank, and Wayne Ingram; and

6 WHEREAS, when Frank Ingram passed away suddenly, Governor Minner become a young, single mother at the  
7 age of 32; and

8 WHEREAS, after finding a job to support her family, she discovered she needed a man's signature to obtain a car  
9 loan in order to purchase a car; and

10 WHEREAS, this experience was impactful, leading Governor Minner to pursue a career in policy change and  
11 public service; and

12 WHEREAS, Governor Minner went on to earn her GED in 1968 and later attended Delaware Technical  
13 Community College while working two jobs to support her family; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1969, she married Robert Minner, and the two operated a towing business together prior to  
15 Robert's death in 1991; and

16 WHEREAS, Governor Minner started her career in politics as an aide in the Delaware House of Representatives  
17 and as a receptionist in the office of former Delaware Governor Sherman Tribbit; and

18 WHEREAS, she was elected to the Delaware House of Representatives in 1974 and served for four terms before  
19 being elected to the Delaware State Senate in 1982; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1992, she became Delaware's first female lieutenant governor, serving for eight years; and

21 WHEREAS, she was elected the Governor of Delaware in 2000, a position she held until January 2009; and

22 WHEREAS, throughout her career in public service, Governor Minner advocated for education, health care, and  
23 the environment; and

24 WHEREAS, Governor Minner signed landmark legislation creating the SEED (Student Excellence Equals Degree)  
25 Scholarship Program, which made Delaware the first state to offer free college access for students; and

26 WHEREAS, she also signed legislation to pilot full-day kindergarten in Delaware and fought to place reading  
27 specialists in every elementary school and math specialists in every middle school; and

28 WHEREAS, Governor Minner signed farmland and forest land preservation bills into law to help preserve the rich  
29 agricultural heritage of Delaware; and

30 WHEREAS, to protect the health of Delawareans, she signed the Clean Indoor Air Act, banning smoking in most  
31 public indoor places, including restaurants, bars, and casinos; and

32 WHEREAS, Governor Minner was a trailblazer for women across the state, and was never afraid to stand her  
33 ground and make difficult decisions for the benefit of all Delawareans; and

34 WHEREAS, she remained dedicated to her strong family values and was always supportive of all working parents  
35 on her staff.

36 NOW, THEREFORE:

37 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of  
38 Representatives concurring therein, that the State of Delaware remembers and honors the life and service of Governor Ruth  
39 Ann Minner.

#### SYNOPSIS

This concurrent resolution remembers and recognizes the life and service of former Delaware Governor Ruth Ann Minner.

Author: Senator Sokola