May 18, 2016

Women of Influence Award in 2016

C/O Doris Kelley djkelley@cfu.net

Steve Corbin steven.b.corbin@gmail.com

Re: Recommendation of Miss Delores Mertz

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

Please accept this correspondence as record of my highest possible recommendation of Delores Mertz for receipt of the Women of Influence Award in 2016.

I have known and worked with Delores for 14 years and am proud to call her a friend and a colleague. Delores and I served 8 years together in the Iowa House of Representatives. In those 8 years, we worked very closely on many pieces of policy and Delores was my mentor. Through her mentoring, I was able to witness firsthand her tremendous skill in handling difficult legislative matters and her innate ability to bring people together to find resolution. She is an impactful woman drawing people to her with her personality, professionalism, and persistence.

Delores has continued impacting policy and making Iowa a better place by serving as a member of the Environmental Protection Commission and as a member of the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission. In all of her endeavors she is driven to gather as much information as possible before she makes a decision. She provides all sides with an opportunity to meet and discuss matters before she makes her decision and at all times she is vetting the information she receives against her inherent judgement as to what is best for her constituents and the state. Her decades of public service paired with her patient and deliberate decision making have made her a role model to policy makers at all levels of government in Iowa.

Delores has achieved success in the policy making arena and there is no question that she has made a lasting impact on the laws of Iowa, the lives of Iowans, and the lives of anyone lucky enough to have worked with her. She is without a doubt a true statesman and I reiterate my highest recommendation for Delores' receipt of the Women of Influence Award in 2016.

Should you have further questions or if you would like to discuss my thoughts of Delores personally, I can be reached at the cell number below.

Respectfully

Douglas L. Struy

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