

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6059

A RESOLUTION congratulating the University of Kansas for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Kansas, the United States and the world.

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas was founded in 1865 as the State University for the State of Kansas, embodying the values and ideals of the people who fought and died to ensure Kansas would enter the Union as a free State, as symbolized by the university's mascot, the Jayhawk; and

WHEREAS, 150 years after its founding, the University of Kansas is home to 28,000 students and 2,800 faculty, and the university graduates more than 6,700 individuals each year who join the ranks of the 340,000 Jayhawk alumni living throughout Kansas, the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas has been a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities since 1909; and

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas has been open to all genders and races since its founding, and the university's first valedictorian was Flora Richardson in 1873; and

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas has 13 schools and offers more than 600 degree programs. Students come from all 50 States and 105 countries to study at the university; and

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas recognizes that the understanding of world cultures is essential for American progress, and the university offers more than 40 separate language courses; and

WHEREAS, One of the continuing education programs at the University of Kansas includes fire and law enforcement training centers that annually train over 16,000 public safety officers across Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Basketball was first played at the University of Kansas in 1898, coached by James Naismith, the inventor of the game, and the university has one of the most successful basketball programs in the country, winning over 2,180 games and 5 national championships; and

WHEREAS, Allen Fieldhouse has hosted the University of Kansas basketball games since 1955, and the building remains one of the most historically significant and prestigious buildings in college athletics; and

WHEREAS, President Theodore Roosevelt pronounced the university's chant – Rock Chalk Jayhawk – the “greatest college cheer ever devised”; and

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas has a long history of working with our nation's military, is one of only 50 schools to host all three ROTC programs, and works with the Army's Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth to produce military and civilian faculty with the advanced degrees necessary to teach at the highest level; and

WHEREAS, Research at the University of Kansas provides numerous economic and societal contributions. Helium was first isolated in Bailey Hall, and the first time-release capsule was developed by a University of Kansas professor; and

WHEREAS, The Spencer Museum of Art houses an internationally known and diverse collection numbering approximately 38,000 works of art and artifacts in all media; and

WHEREAS, The Kenneth Spencer Research Library is home to some of the rarest and most precious volumes and materials in the world, including cuneiform tablets written four millennia ago; and

WHEREAS, Astronauts, artists, authors, business leaders, Pulitzer Prize winners, a Nobel laureate, and Governors and Senators launched their careers at the University of Kansas, including former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole; and

WHEREAS, The Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics offers opportunities for all citizens to discover how they might best serve their communities: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we recognize the diverse elements of the University of Kansas are united by the university's mission to educate leaders, build healthy communities and make discoveries that benefit and improve society; and

*Be it further resolved:* That we congratulate the University of Kansas for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Kansas, the United States and the world.

House Resolution No. 6059 was sponsored by Representative Erin Davis.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*