

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1730

A RESOLUTION congratulating Cletus Simons on his receipt of
the French Legion of Honor medal.

WHEREAS, Cletus Simons received the Knight of the Legion of Honor medal from the President of the French Republic on December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, The French *Légion d'honneur* or "Legion of Honor" is the highest decoration bestowed in France, and it was first established by Napoleon Bonaparte in May of 1802; and

WHEREAS, Following the two World Wars, the Legion of Honor was awarded to honor the heroism of veterans and to comfort the families of soldiers who had sacrificed their lives to protect their country; and

WHEREAS, U.S. veterans who risked their lives during World War II to fight on French territory qualify to be decorated as Knights of the Legion of Honor if the veteran fought in one of the main campaigns of the Liberation of France; and

WHEREAS, Cletus Simons is a U.S. combat veteran of World War II. He served in L Company, 325th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division, U.S. Army. During Operation Overload-D Day, Mr. Simons went to Le Havre, France as a Platoon Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Simons has earned several military awards and decorations including the Combat Infantry Badge, the Expert Infantry Badge, Parachutists Badge, Glider Badge, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with three Bronze Battle Stars and the Good Conduct Medal; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Simons suffered injury in Paris where he was evacuated to a hospital and had an operation. Despite this injury, after recovering from his wounds, Mr. Simons rejoined his unit to continue fighting for our country; and

WHEREAS, Service members, like Mr. Simons, are an essential part of our nation's society. They risk their lives to fight for the freedoms and liberties of American citizens without regard for their personal welfare: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate Cletus Simons on his receipt of the Legion of Honor medal from the President of France. We are extremely grateful for his service in World War II, and all Kansans and Americans benefited greatly from his service. We are honored to call Mr. Simons a Kansan, and we wish him well in the future; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide six enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Hensley.

Senate Resolution No. 1730 was sponsored by Senator Anthony Hensley.

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

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.