

Special Session of 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1806

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the General Motors Fairfax automobile assembly plant.

WHEREAS, The General Motors automobile assembly plant located in the Fairfax district of Kansas City is scheduled to build its 10 millionth automobile this summer. The company plans to celebrate this event on August 19; and

WHEREAS, The original plant was constructed by the federal government to build B25 bombers. After World War II General Motors leased the plant from the federal government to build automobiles. During the Korean War the plant reverted to building airplanes—this time the F84F fighter planes; and

WHEREAS, Disaster struck the plant during the flood of 1951 when water rose to nine feet in the plant. After the clean-up, it went back on line as the nation's first facility constructing both aircraft and automobiles during the Korean War. General Motors purchased the plant in 1960 and started a \$17 million renovation of the facility. In 1968 the plant was renamed, officially becoming the Fairfax Assembly Plant; and

WHEREAS, Disaster again struck the plant in 1979 when 56,000 square feet of the plant roof collapsed. Reconstruction took three months of effort before full production could be resumed; and

WHEREAS, In 1985 construction on a new plant was commenced. Production at the old plant ceased in 1987 ending 41 years of auto assembling and the production of over seven million automobiles. The new plant was completed in July of 1987 and a second shift of workers was added in 1988. In 1994 a new flexible body shop was completed allowing the plant to build six different body styles from three different platforms; and

WHEREAS, In 2002 General Motors and UAW Local 31 were recognized as the 2002 Greater Kansas City area Corporate Philanthropists of the Year—the first time any organization on the Kansas side of the metropolitan Kansas City area had been so recognized; and

WHEREAS, In 2003 the plant was shut down for three months to retool for state of the art platforms allowing for construction of modern models such as the new Chevrolet Malibu and the Saturn Aura: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the Senate congratulates and commends General Motors and the dedicated employees of the organization on its long history of automotive manufacturing in the Kansas City area and upon its projected completion of its 10 millionth vehicle this summer; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide three enrolled copies of this resolution to John J. Federico, J. D., 815 SW Topeka Blvd., Second Floor, Topeka, KS 66612, for presentation to the Fairfax Assembly plant manager and the UAW Local 31 President.

Senate Resolution No. 1806 was sponsored by Senators Stephen Morris and David Haley.

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.