

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6015

A RESOLUTION in memory of Clinton R. Upchurch.

WHEREAS, Clinton R. Upchurch, 31, of Garden City was killed January 7, 2006, while serving with the United States Army in Samarra, Iraq. A military policeman assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, he was killed by enemy fire after an explosive device detonated near his convoy. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of specialist and buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Memorial services were held also at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and at the Word of Life Church in Garden City. He was the first Garden City service person to be killed in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Upchurch was a Garden City native graduating from Garden City High School in 1993 and from Garden City Community College in 2004. He was a member of the Word of Life Church in Garden City. He had been a deputy sheriff for the Finney County Sheriff's Office for several years before enlisting in the Army in 2004. After completing required training, he was stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Upchurch was married to Karri Stewart in Garden City on March 3, 2001. She survives. Also surviving are three stepsons, Ryan Stewart, Earl Stewart and Patrick Nicks; his parents, Greg and Cindy Upchurch; a brother, John Upchurch, and a sister, Misty Dawn Upchurch; and

WHEREAS, Like all of the American military personnel serving in Iraq, Specialist Upchurch was a volunteer fighting to provide a better life for people in a land which had long suffered a despot's rule. Only through the efforts of people such as Specialist Upchurch can the dream of freedom be realized for these people: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we honor a Kansan who gave his life in the pursuit of freedom for all people and extend our deepest sympathy for his surviving wife, parents and family members; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to his wife and parents both addressed to 305 Davis Street, Garden City, KS 67846.

House Resolution No. 6015 was sponsored by Representative Ward Loyd.

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

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.