

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6028

A RESOLUTION in memory of Richard E. "Dick" Eckert.

WHEREAS, Richard E. "Dick" Eckert of Holton, Kansas, formerly of Wetmore, Kansas, passed away April 2, 2009, at Ottawa County Health Center in Minneapolis, Kansas at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Dick Eckert was born June 9, 1922, in Arrington, Kansas to Jacob Richard and Helen Littleton Eckert. He graduated from Denison High School in 1940 before he was mobilized as a Private with the Kansas National Guard in Holton on December 23, 1940, and served with the 11th Airborne Division in the Philippines, Okinawa and Japan. He was in active duty until February 1946, and remained active in the National Guard until he moved to full time in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Dick Eckert married Maxine E. Kientz on August 24, 1951; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eckert attended Washburn University and graduated with an Associates of Business Degree in Education; and

WHEREAS, After graduating, Mr. Eckert was hired to teach and coach at Netawaka High School in September 1949, where he coached baseball and boys and girls basketball. His boys basketball teams went to the State Tournament in 1959, 1960 and 1962; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eckert was promoted to Colonel on July 15, 1971, and appointed to the position of Chief of Staff for the Adjutant General Kansas Army National Guard, a position he served in for 9 years before retiring in December 1980, with 40 years of Active and Reserve service; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Eckert was inducted into the Infantry Officer Candidate Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, Georgia in May 1991, and the Kansas National Guard Hall of Fame in Topeka in November 1991; and

WHEREAS, Dick Eckert was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives 60th District in 1982, and was re-elected in 1984, 1986 and 1988; and

WHEREAS, Dick Eckert is survived by his son Rick Eckert and his wife Belinda; his daughter-in-law Kelly Ray; his sisters Mary Doyle, Marceline Marinich and Marjorie Sage; nine grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, The fortitude and strength of character that Dick Eckert demonstrated throughout his life serves as an example for all to aspire to: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representative of the State of Kansas:* That we honor Richard E. "Dick" Eckert for his many contributions to his state and country and that we extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

House Resolution No. 6028 was sponsored by Representative Dan Johnson.

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.*