

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1834

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Ed Dwight.

WHEREAS, Ed Dwight was born and raised in Kansas City, Kansas and attended Bishop Ward High School and Kansas City Kansas Community College before leaving for military service; and

WHEREAS, Ed Dwight's numerous accomplishments, which include being a former Air Force test pilot, America's first African American astronaut trainee, a computer systems engineer, an aviation consultant, a restaurateur, a real estate developer and a construction entrepreneur, truly make him a "Renaissance" man; and

WHEREAS, For the past 35 years, Mr. Dwight has used his talents to become an internationally recognized sculptor whose works depict the contributions and accomplishments of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dwight's first serious artistic endeavor began with a commission to create a sculpture of George Brown, Colorado's first African American Lieutenant Governor, which was soon followed by a second commission by the Colorado Centennial Commission for a series of bronzes, entitled "Black Frontier Spirit in the American West", depicting the contributions of African Americans to the opening of the West; and

WHEREAS, Ed Dwight has crafted numerous public art projects throughout the country, including the first bi-national monument in Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Canada dedicated to the International Underground Railroad Movement; the African American History Monument on the Capitol Grounds in Columbia, South Carolina and a memorial to the first African American legislator in Ohio, George Washington Williams, installed in the State Capitol in Columbus, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Ed Dwight is currently working on one of the largest memorials to date in the United States, which honors Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and will be installed in Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dwight continues to strive toward the creation of the only tribute to African Americans on the Washington Mall, the Black Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial which honors the 5,000 African Americans that served and fought with George Washington in the Revolutionary War, contributing to the birth of the Nation. The tribute will be located between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Ed Dwight's outstanding works of art and contributions to society have made this "Renaissance" man an enormous asset to Kansas and the country: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Ed Dwight for his outstanding accomplishments and thank him for his many contributions to Kansas and the entire country; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Haley.

Senate Resolution No. 1834 was sponsored by Senator David Haley.

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

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*