

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1852

A RESOLUTION commemorating the sesquicentennial of the founding of the City of Iola, Kansas.

WHEREAS, On January 1, 1859, a group of 50 pioneers gathered to form the Iola Town Company of which John W. Scott was elected president; and

WHEREAS, Iola, Kansas was established in 1859, making 2009 the sesquicentennial of its founding; and

WHEREAS, Iola was named in honor of Iola Colborn, who with her husband, Josiah F. Colborn, had settled in a log cabin near the future town site in 1857 and who built the first frame house in the new town; and

WHEREAS, In 1865 Iola became the county seat of Allen County; and

WHEREAS, Iola's population exploded during the Gas Boom era of 1894-1907, growing from a town of about 1,500 people to one of approximately 14,000, all as the result of the discovery and utilization of vast natural gas pools; and

WHEREAS, This tremendous natural gas supply furnished the fuel for the development of cement and brick plants, zinc smelters and other small manufacturing plants. Additionally, this economic boom resulted in publicly owned utilities, an electric railway, a public library building, multiple school buildings and a Grand Theater; and

WHEREAS, Even after the gas pools were largely exhausted, Iola continued to improve its community facilities and to serve the residents of Iola; and

WHEREAS, New industry such as Columbia Metal Products, Gates Rubber Company, Haldex Brake Corporation and Russell Stover Candies have helped to keep the Iola economy going strong; and

WHEREAS, The City of Iola has proudly served its citizens for the past 150 years and it looks forward to continuing to do so in the years ahead: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we commemorate the sesquicentennial of the founding of the City of Iola and celebrate the unique contributions that it has provided for its citizens and the State of Kansas; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide eight enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Derek Schmidt.

Senate Resolution No. 1852 was sponsored by Senator Derek Schmidt.

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.*