

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6005

A RESOLUTION recognizing the Commissioner of Forestry and the Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University for providing 125 years of dedicated forestry services to the owners, managers and stewards of the state's forest, trees, natural resources and related industries.

WHEREAS, Kansas established the Commissioner of Forestry Office in 1887 to procure and manage land for forest tree nursery production and to develop public interest in forestry practices; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Forestry's successor office, the Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University, has 16 decreed powers and duties; and

WHEREAS, Fulfillment of the Kansas Forest Service's decreed powers and duties provide an annual economic impact valued at over \$26 million; and

WHEREAS, The Agency's annual services include:

Forestry training to over 1000 forest and windbreak landowners, and timber harvesters;

helping over 300 forest landowners professionally plant and manage in excess of 5,000 acres of timber;

protecting and reforesting stream corridors to slow sediment deposition in water supply reservoirs, improving water quality and quantity;

helping interested forest and ranchland landowners qualify for over \$100,000 of forestry and windbreak financial assistance through USDA conservation programs;

promoting the harvesting, marketing and utilization of wood products to Kansas landowners, timber harvesters, locally owned sawmills and other wood processing plants;

distributing over 350,000 tree seedlings to 2,400 property owners interested in residential energy savings, livestock protection and improved livestock feed efficiency, wind erosion control, wildlife habitat, Christmas trees, timber products and stream bank erosion control;

helping over 150 communities, home to 85% of the state's population, professionally manage their public tree resources through the local allocation of over \$16 million for tree planting, care and hazard tree removals;

creating jobs and improving the professional care of the state's community forest by training 40 persons with sufficient credentials to become certified arborists;

helping over 500 rural fire districts train volunteers and acquire excess military equipment, which provide wildfire protection services to over 500 rural communities and 46 million acres of land;

helping the Kansas Department of Agriculture survey and monitor forest insects and diseases and, where necessary, establish protection quarantines; and

monitoring, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, the size, condition and health of the state's forests through the bi-decadal conduct of state wide forest inventory and analyses: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That the Kansas Forest Service, Kansas State University, is hereby commended for 125 years of visionary service and passionate dedication to the state's forest, tree, natural resources and related industries, as well as to the owners, managers and stewards of these resources and industries for the environmental, economic and social well-being of the state; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 6005 – page 2

President, Provost, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Associate Dean of Research, Associate Dean of Extension, Associate Dean of Academics and the Head of the Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources of Kansas State University and the Board of Regents.

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.*