House Resolution No. 6036

By Representatives DeGraaf, Powell, Barker, Becker, Bideau, Boldra, Bradford, Carpenter, Christmann, Claeys, Concannon, Couture-Lovelady, Dove, Edwards, Esau, Ewy, Garber, Gonzalez, Grosserode, Hedke, Highland, Hoffman, Howell, Huebert, Johnson, Jones, Kahrs, Lunn, Macheers, Mast, McPherson, Peck, Petty, Read, Rothlisberg, Ryckman Sr., Schroeder, Seiwert, Siegfreid and Sutton

5-30

A RESOLUTION supporting the 200+ years of Judeo-Christian tradition and its open expression in the U.S. Military.

WHEREAS, American history demonstrates the importance of open and unrestricted religious expression in the military, beginning with General George Washington even before the American founding and then continuing unabated thereafter; and

WHEREAS, The historical and constitutional emphasis on securing the rights of conscience and religious expression are for all citizens and does not exclude those in the military; and

WHEREAS, There is a recent documented trend of increasing hostility from special interests towards religious expressions by military service members and of restrictions on military chaplains, especially toward those of the Judeo-Christian tradition; and

WHEREAS, The Judeo-Christian tradition has been, and continues to be, the majority religion in the U.S.A. and its military; and $\,$

WHEREAS, American history has had a two-century policy of friendliness to and acceptance of faith and religious expression in the military, including its direct support through a professional chaplaincy; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of government is to protect the inalienable rights of every individual, including those in the military; the rights of conscience and religious expression are among those rights which government has a fundamental duty to protect, rather than infringe upon: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we strongly support the 200+ years of Judeo-Christian tradition and its open expression in the U.S. Military; and

Be it further resolved: That the Kansas House of Representatives expects its U.S. Legislators to fully support and aggressively defend the rights of religious conscience and the free exercise of the Judeo-Christian tradition in the U.S. Military and support the professional chaplaincy; and

Be it further resolved: That the Kansas House of Representatives expects the Adjutant General of Kansas to fully support and aggressively

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 defend the rights of religious conscience and the free exercise of the Judeo-Christian tradition in the Kansas National Guard and support the professional chaplaincy; and

Be it further resolved: That the Kansas House of Representatives expects civilian and military leaders of the U.S. Military to fully support and aggressively defend the rights of religious conscience and the free exercise of the Judeo-Christian tradition in the U.S. Military and support the professional chaplaincy; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the U.S. legislators representing Kansas, Adjutant General Tafanelli and Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel.