

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1739**

**A RESOLUTION honoring the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Goodwill  
of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas.**

**WHEREAS, In 1902, Goodwill Industries was founded in Boston, Massachusetts, by Edgar J. Helms;  
and**

**WHEREAS, To support its programs, Goodwill Industries initially collected used goods, and it trained  
employees with different abilities or disadvantages to repair items for resale to support its programs; and**

**WHEREAS, Goodwill Industries adopted the philosophy of offering "a hand up, not a hand out"; and**

**WHEREAS, Over the years, Goodwill Industries expanded its focus and became a training center for  
job seekers and began offering employment skills training and vocational rehabilitation for persons with  
disabilities; and**

**WHEREAS, In 1894, the Helping Hand Institute was founded in Kansas City, Missouri, to provide  
food, shelter, and a work-relief program for the homeless and without resources; and**

**WHEREAS, In 1978, in a joint effort to empower the local community to join and contribute to the  
workforce, Goodwill Industries and the Helping Hand Institute of Kansas City merged to form the  
Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries; and**

**WHEREAS, In 2010, the organization was renamed Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas  
to reflect the geographic area it serves; and**

**WHEREAS, Today, the Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas operates 14 retail stores, an  
outlet store and three donation centers, annually diverting more than 15 million pounds of material from  
going to area landfills; and**

**WHEREAS, Goodwill also empowers and trains hundreds of local job seekers with different abilities  
and disadvantages through individualized programs and services; and**

**WHEREAS, After 125 years, Goodwill continues to be a nonprofit leader that provides resources and  
services to individuals confronted by barriers to employment: Now, therefore,**

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we honor the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Goodwill  
of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas; and*

*Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to  
Senator Sykes.*

Senate Resolution No. 1739 was sponsored by Senator Dinah Sykes.

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.*