

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1710

A RESOLUTION honoring the life of George Washington Carver and his contributions to American agriculture and society.

WHEREAS, George Washington Carver was born into slavery in 1864 in Diamond Springs, Missouri, and came to Kansas at the age of thirteen; and

WHEREAS, He graduated from Minneapolis High School in Minneapolis, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, He spent his teenage and young adult years living, going to school and working in many locations across Kansas, including Paola, Olathe, Spring Hill and Beeler in Ness County; and

WHEREAS, He attended Iowa State Agricultural College, and in 1894, he became the first African American to earn a Bachelor of Science degree; and

WHEREAS, In 1896, Carver earned a Master's degree in Agricultural Science; and

WHEREAS, He worked from 1896 to the end of his life at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Carver taught impoverished farmers that the farmers could feed their hogs with acorns instead of commercial feed and enrich croplands with swamp muck instead of expensive fertilizers; and

WHEREAS, Carver introduced crop rotation by growing nitrogen-fixing plants like peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes to restore the nutrient-depleted soil from years of growing cotton; and

WHEREAS, Carver invented numerous products from sweet potatoes, including flour, vinegar, stains, dyes, paints and writing ink; and

WHEREAS, He developed over 300 food, industrial and commercial products from peanuts, including milk, Worcestershire sauce, cooking oils, paper, cosmetics, soaps and wood stains; and

WHEREAS, In 1921, Carver appeared before the United States House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee to demonstrate the vast number of products that could be made from peanuts, thereby earning a standing ovation from committee members; and

WHEREAS, Carver traveled to India to advise Mahatma Gandhi on how to adopt Carver's nutritional theories in India and other developing nations; and

WHEREAS, Upon his death on January 5, 1943, he was buried next to famed educator and author Booker T. Washington on the grounds of the Tuskegee Institute; and

WHEREAS, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation that gave Carver his own monument, an honor only previously granted to presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. George Washington Carver's monument stands in Diamond Springs, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, George Washington Carver was posthumously inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we recognize the significant achievements of George Washington Carver and his contributions to American agriculture and society; and

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

Senate Resolution No. 1710 was sponsored by Senators Hawk, Alley, Billinger, Bowers, Claeys, Corson, Dietrich, Fagg, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Holland, Holscher, Kerschen, Kloos, McGinn, Pettey, Pittman, Sykes and Ware.

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

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.