

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1712

**A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Olympic boxer and Wichita native, Nico Hernandez, for winning a bronze medal at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.**

WHEREAS, Nico Hernandez was born in Wichita, Kansas, on January 4, 1996; and

WHEREAS, At nine years old, Nico began his journey to boxing stardom when his father, Lewis, whom Nico credits with his success, began training Nico to be a boxer at the Northside 316 Boxing Club; and

WHEREAS, Nico's amateur career leading up to the Olympics was filled with many accomplishments, such as becoming the 2011-2012 Junior Olympic National Champion, the 2014 Youth Open Champion, the 2015 Continental Championships Bronze Medalist, the U.S. Olympic Trial Champion and the Americas Olympic Qualifier Silver Medalist; and

WHEREAS, After losing his best friend, Tony Losey, in 2014, Nico's desire to honor Tony's memory helped him reach new heights; and

WHEREAS, In Rio, Nico defeated Italy's Manuel Cappai in his first bout by a 3-0 decision. The next two matches were much the same when he defeated Russia's Vasili Egorov and Ecuador's Carlos Eduardo Quipo Palaxti to advance to the semi-finals. Nico ensured his place on the winners' podium by earning the Olympic bronze medal and the first United States men's boxing medal since the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games; and

WHEREAS, Nico is the first person from Wichita to win an Olympic medal since 1984, and the first person to win an individual medal since former Congressman Jim Ryun in 1968; and

WHEREAS, While representing his country abroad, Nico inspired many young people in Wichita by demonstrating that no matter where you are born or what your life circumstances may be, hard work and dedication will allow you to follow your dreams; and

WHEREAS, Since his return to Wichita, Nico has been a constant presence in Wichita area schools, where he continues to encourage the next generation to work hard and focus on their goals, and never stop pursuing them: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Olympic boxer and Wichita native, Nico Hernandez, for winning a bronze medal at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send enrolled copies of this resolution to Nico Hernandez, Lewis Hernandez, Chello Hernandez, Tony Losey, Pat Villa, Brandon Findley and Senators Faust-Goudeau and Rogers.

Senate Resolution No. 1712 was sponsored by Senators Oletha Faust-Goudeau and Lynn Rogers.

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.*