

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1853

A RESOLUTION proclaiming August 8 and 9, 2007, as “Kansas Exoduster Colonies’ Days.”

WHEREAS, Following the Civil War, many former slaves and freedmen migrated to Kansas because it had a progressive and more tolerant reputation than most other states at that time. These African American migrants were called “Exodusters,” in reference to the biblical story of the Hebrew exodus from Egypt. During the 1870s and 1880s, nearly 40,000 Exodusters came to Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Exoduster families made significant contributions to the state of Kansas and the surrounding area and were located in the colonies of Bloomington, Burlington, Chautauqua, David City, Dunlap, Groves Center, Hoggstown, Little Caney, Mississippi, Morton, Mud Town, Nicodemus, Quindaro, Rattlebone Hollow, Redmonsville, Rice, Richie’s Addition, Scuffletown, Sedan, Singleton, Summit, Tennessee Town, The Bottoms, Votaw, Wabunsee and Wayside; and

WHEREAS, The descendants of the Exoduster families have made their presence and influence felt in population growth, education, city development, science, religion, the professions and the arts; and

WHEREAS, August 8 and 9, 2007, there will be a “Reconnection II” event for Exoduster descendants from across the fifty states to return and reconnect: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we proclaim August 8 and 9, 2007, as “Kansas Exoduster Colonies’ Days”; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Nat Fitz, President, Votaw Colony Museum, Inc., 818 Gertrude Avenue, Richmond, California 94801.

Senate Resolution No. 1853 was sponsored by Senators D. Schmidt, Betts and Haley.

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.*