

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1813

A RESOLUTION recognizing and expressing gratitude for the life and work of Tyrone T. Korte and other highway workers for the important and sometimes dangerous job they do.

WHEREAS, The topic of work zone safety is again being studied following the tragic death of Tyrone T. Korte, 30, of Seneca, who was killed on September 11, 2007, while working on U.S. Highway 59 near Lawrence. This unnecessary and unfortunate loss serves as a reminder of the danger that men and women face every day as they risk their lives in highway work zones; and

WHEREAS, Ty Korte's friends at the Seneca Construction and Maintenance Office said of him, "Ty always had a smile to greet you when you walked in the door. He would always go the extra mile to help you on the project or in the office. Ty would always step up to whatever task was set in front of him. But, he always made work fun, from the joking around, to his inability to sit still, and his love for the Jayhawks and the Yankees. Ty always wanted to be the best, whether it was at his job or in life. That was evident in all the little competitions he would come up with in the office or out on the project, and in his love for golf. If he wasn't the best he would try and try until he was. Ty Korte was a great co-worker and an even better friend."; and

WHEREAS, The KDOT family is deeply saddened by the loss of Ty Korte, who had worked as an Engineering Technician for the agency since 2002. The deaths of Ty Korte and other highway workers stand as witness to the need to redouble our efforts to reduce work zone crashes to help protect men and women working and traveling on highways in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Ty Korte and his colleagues provide an essential service for the traveling public. However, motorists traveling through work zones present significant risk to highway workers and other motorists—last year alone, 14 people were killed and 657 injured in work zone crashes; and

WHEREAS, Highway work zone safety has long been a top priority in the state of Kansas and a joint committee of Kansas Department of Transportation and Kansas Highway Patrol will now re-examine our policies and standards in a renewed effort to protect those who serve in work zones: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we recognize the significant contributions of Tyrone T. Korte and other highway workers for the difficult and sometimes dangerous job they do; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide two enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Taddiken, one for presentation to the Korte family, and one for Ty Korte's friends in the Seneca Construction and Maintenance Office.

Senate Resolution No. 1813 was sponsored by Senator Mark Taddiken.

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.*