

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1715

A RESOLUTION honoring native Kansan, Frederick L. Simon, for his service in the U.S. Army and the success of Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers.

WHEREAS, Frederick L. Simon was born on February 24, 1925, in Colwich, Kansas, and will turn 90 next week. He is a lifetime Kansan, having resided in Wichita all of his adult life; and

WHEREAS, After being denied admittance to the Army because he was underage at the time Pearl Harbor was bombed, Simon joined the United States Army in 1943 after graduating from high school. He trained at Fort Riley, Kansas, after which he was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division; and

WHEREAS, On October 20, 1944, Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class Simon was on the first wave of ships at the historic amphibious landings at Leyte, Philippines. The landings commenced the liberation of the Philippines and fulfilled General Douglas MacArthur's famous "I shall return" commitment of the United States to the Filipino people; and

WHEREAS, While serving, Simon earned and was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained, and the Bronze Star for valor. He was promoted to Sergeant shortly before the end of the war, only 10 months after the landing in the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, After World War II, Freddy, as he was known in his childhood and in the Army, returned to Wichita, where he graduated from Wichita University with a degree in accounting. He joined a wholesale liquor company shortly after prohibition was repealed in Kansas and worked there for 56 years; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 20 years, Freddy has provided a first-hand account of his World War II experiences to nearly 100 audiences of young and old Kansans but, primarily, to high school history classes in the state; and

WHEREAS, Freddy is the namesake and co-founder of Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers. The award-winning company opened its first store in Wichita in 2002. Today, the company has 140 stores in 23 states and, in its first 12 years, has created approximately 6,000 new jobs, 1,000 of which are in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Freddy has been married to his wife, Norma Jean, for 67 years and raised six children. They have 19 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we wish Freddy Simon a happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday next week, recognize him for his heroic service to this country and congratulate him on the nation-wide success of his restaurant business; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send three enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator O'Donnell.

Senate Resolution No. 1715 was sponsored by Senator Michael O'Donnell II.

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.*