

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6041

A RESOLUTION congratulating Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas on its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024.

WHEREAS, The Helping Hand Institute was founded in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1894 to provide food, shelter and a work relief program for those who were homeless and without resources; and

WHEREAS, Goodwill Industries was founded in 1902 with the mission of collecting household goods to be repaired and sold to support the program and hiring and training individuals with disabilities and disadvantages; and

WHEREAS, The Goodwill Industries of Greater Kansas City opened its first repair shop in 1925 at St. Peter's Evangelical Church on Oak Street, where it impacted the community over several decades through the provision of employment skills training and vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities and other disadvantages; and

WHEREAS, The Helping Hand Institute and Goodwill Industries of Greater Kansas City merged in 1978 to form the Helping Hand of Goodwill Industries, which, in 2010, was changed to its present name Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas, otherwise known simply as Goodwill; and

WHEREAS, Today, Goodwill continues to be a nonprofit leader in the Kansas City region, providing resources and services to individuals who face barriers to obtaining employment, including one-on-one career navigation and employment services, wraparound services, digital skills training and digital navigation services, reentry services and occupational training within the Goodwill Artemis Institute courses such as the Bridge to Technology and Certified Manufacturing Associate; and

WHEREAS, Goodwill continues to support the community by directly employing nearly 700 people, offering janitorial services to government and commercial customers, operating 17 donated goods retail stores and one outlet center, which provides inexpensive household items and clothing for the community while at the same time diverting such items from landfills: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas on its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of empowering people and strengthening communities in Eastern Kansas.

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

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*