

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6011

A RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Ellsworth Route of the historic Chisholm Trail.

WHEREAS, The Ellsworth Route of the Chisholm Trail is celebrating its 150th anniversary after a long and storied history that includes the birth of the American folk-type cowboy, cowtowns, cowboy hats and the beginning of the Old West era in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail was initially developed in 1867 by Joseph McCoy, an Abilene stockyard owner, and was named after Jesse Chisholm, a Kansan who owned a trading post in Wichita and frequently traded with Native Americans throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, During the heyday of the Chisholm Trail, from the late 1860s through the 1880s, the trail stretched roughly from Kingsville, Texas, to Abilene, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The trail served as a cattle pipeline, leading herds from the Texas ranches to the Kansas stockyards and railroad hubs in Abilene, Caldwell, Dodge City, Ellsworth, Newton and Wichita; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1873, the Ellsworth Route of the Chisholm Trail, sometimes called the Cox's Trail, passed through seven Kansas counties, including Harper, Kingman, Reno, Stafford, Barton, Rice and Ellsworth, where the trail ended; and

WHEREAS, The trail was an economic lifeline for Kansas, since it promoted the railroad and made ranching profitable by shipping millions of heads of cattle to the eastern parts of the country and using newly formed rail hubs situated near the Chisholm Trail in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The economic activity created by the Chisholm Trail boosted the economies of many surrounding towns near the trail and helped build the reputation of Kansas as a leader in the beef industry; and

WHEREAS, The Chisholm Trail is considered as one of the great byways of America, and along with the Oregon Trail and the Santa Fe Trail, it has helped popularize many iconic images of the Old West and enhanced the Kansas economy; and

WHEREAS, The Ellsworth Route of the Chisholm Trail is a treasured landmark in Kansas history: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Ellsworth Route of the Chisholm Trail; and

Be it further resolved: That we praise the countless economic benefits that resulted from the Ellsworth Route of the Chisholm Trail's impact on Kansas.

House Resolution No. 6011 was sponsored by Representative Troy Waymaster

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

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.