

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1864

A RESOLUTION congratulating and honoring Leroy C. Tombs, Sr.

WHEREAS, Leroy C. Tombs, Sr. of Bonner Springs has had a long and distinguished career in business and community activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tombs enlisted in the United States Navy in 1940. After serving on the USS Dallas and USS Guard Fish during World War II, and later on other submarines and the Navy Recruiting Office, he retired in 1963 as a chief petty officer; and

WHEREAS, In 1975, Mr. Tombs became the first black businessman to participate in the building of the Alaskan pipeline through a camp catering subcontract with Greyhound Support Services and Bechtel Corporation at Glenallen Camp, Alaska. Mr. Tombs retired from his own multi-million dollar minority-owned firm, Tombs and Sons, Inc., in 1985 after 13 years. Tombs and Sons, Inc. provided full food and accommodations service, employed 1500 employees and included total food preparation, purchasing of food, providing janitorial, domestic, lounge and beverage services and other personalized accommodations. During this time Mr. Tombs negotiated more than 50 contracts in the government and private sector and acquired the title of the "top negotiator" in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tombs other business activities include ownership of an IGA grocery store; an appliance and electronic store; the King Pin Bowling Alley, Restaurant and Lounge; Crown Lincoln Mercury Ford Dealership and Tombs Janitorial, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tombs has been very active in political and community activities. He has been a member of the Board of Directors-Urban League; lifetime and heritage member of NAACP; Kansas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; State Civil Rights Board and National Civil Rights Board; State Fund Raiser for the Black College Negro Fund for the state of Kansas for 10 years; advisor to President Ronald Reagan on small business; Regional Director of the National Business League; President of and consultant to the National Association of Service Contractors; member of the Black Chamber of Commerce; secretary-treasurer of the National Association of Black Manufacturers; founder of the National Black Republican Council; member of the National Republican Party and a precinct committee person; served as Vice-President of the National Coalition of Minority Enterprise and was the cofounder of the organization, Twenty Good Men; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tombs has received the following awards: Small Businessman of the Year, 1974; Seller of the Year, 1974, Black Economic Union; Recipient of the Frederick Douglas Award, 1980; voted numerous times as one of the top 100 Black businessmen in the United States; Legacy Award for exceptional service to the black community of the Greater Kansas City area and was honored by the city of Bonner Springs by having Neconi Avenue named Leroy C. Tombs Drive: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Leroy C. Tombs, Sr., for a most successful career in the fields of business and public service; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Leroy C. Tombs, Sr., 411 Leroy C. Tombs Drive, Bonner Springs, Kansas 66012 and to Senator Haley.

Senate Resolution No. 1864 was sponsored by Senator David Haley.

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.*