

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1610

By Senator Betts

3-12

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9 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing March 10th as Harriet  
10 Tubman Day.

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12 WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman, who lived from 1821 to 1913, was  
13 termed the Moses of American abolitionists and one of the most coura-  
14 geous women in history. Born a slave in eastern Maryland, she escaped  
15 to freedom on the underground railroad during the summer of 1849. Her  
16 passage to freedom caused her to devote her life to sharing the taste of  
17 freedom with others - a heroic calling for an individual who had no for-  
18 mal education and never learned to read or write; and

19 WHEREAS, Harriet Tubman returned to the South on 19 occasions  
20 to lead other slaves to freedom. She is credited with undertaking the most  
21 hazardous journeys and leading about 300 individuals to freedom. A  
22 bounty of \$40,000, with a horrifying sentence of torture until death, was  
23 offered for her capture - yet she was never captured and never lost a  
24 "passenger" on the underground railroad; and

25 WHEREAS, During the Civil War she was attached to the Union  
26 Army serving as a cook, nurse, scout for raiding parties and spy behind  
27 Confederate lines. After the war she settled in Auburn, New York, and  
28 continued to work for black freedom, the homeless and elderly, and for  
29 education and human rights. Upon her death in 1913 she was buried with  
30 full military honors. The citizens of Auburn raised a monument in her  
31 memory and for many years maintained the Harriet Tubman Home for  
32 needy blacks, which she had founded; and

33 WHEREAS, On March 10, 1990, the Harriet Tubman Historical So-  
34 ciety sponsored the day to honor the contributions of Ms. Tubman. That  
35 tribute has been recognized by the United States Congress, 25 states and  
36 many cities and organizations. Accordingly, it is entirely appropriate that  
37 the legislature of the state of Kansas, the citizens of which had an exten-  
38 sive history of supporting the underground railroad through eastern Kan-  
39 sas, recognize and honor this great humanitarian on March 10, Harriet  
40 Tubman Day: Now, therefore,

41 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Rep-*  
42 *resentatives concurring therein:* That we honor this great American on  
43 her designated day and hope that her example will cause all people to

1 cherish freedom in all places and at all times; and  
2 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed  
3 to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Vivian Abdur-Rahim,  
4 Coordinator, The Harriet Tubman Holiday Committee, P.O. Box 832127,  
5 Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083.