

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1862

A Resolution congratulating and commending Victor Ortiz for becoming the World Boxing Council (WBC) welterweight champion of the world.

WHEREAS, On April 16th, 2011 Victor "Vicious" Ortiz defeated Andre Berto by unanimous decision to become the WBC welterweight champion of the world at Foxwoods, Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Shortly after his birth in Liberal, Kansas, Victor Ortiz moved to and grew up in Garden City, Kansas where he attended the Garden City Unified School District No. 457 from kindergarten through the ninth grade; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz has developed his "Vicious" nickname and fighting style by attacking challenges head-on. He has overcome trying circumstances and difficult obstacles to achieve his goal of becoming a world champion. He was forced to grow up without his mother from age 7 and without his father from age 12. He would later become the guardian for his younger brother, Temo, juggling a demanding training schedule with his newly assumed responsibilities as a father figure; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz started his boxing training and career in Garden City, Kansas under the tutelage of Ignacio "Bucky" Avila at the Garden City Boxing Club, who not only trained Victor how to box, but also how to be a man; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz found a support system inside the Garden City Boxing Club and also with tutor and mentor Sharon Ford, who took Victor into her home when his family life disintegrated; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz won a Silver Glove Championship and was a two-time Golden Glove Champion; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz eventually became a seven-time national amateur boxing champion; and

WHEREAS, Regardless of Victor's travels, his heart has remained in Kansas. A KU Jayhawk fan since age 5, he enjoys frequent trips to Lawrence to visit friends on the KU campus. During his title fight against Berto, Victor sported a pair of boxing trunks with the official Jayhawk logo on the back; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz has always called Garden City, Kansas "home"; and

WHEREAS, Victor Ortiz is proud to serve as a role model exemplifying hard work and commitment, especially for the Hispanic and Latino communities: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Victor Ortiz for becoming the WBC welterweight boxing champion of the world. His determination and perseverance in the face of numerous hardships and challenges serve as inspiration to all Kansans. We wish him continued success in and out of the ring and all happiness in the future; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send two enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Morris.

Senate Resolution No. 1862 was sponsored by Senator Stephen Morris.

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.*