

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1807

A RESOLUTION designating March 27, 2014, as Mars Chocolate North America Day in Kansas and commending and congratulating Mars Chocolate North America upon the special celebration of its Topeka, Kansas Grand Opening.

WHEREAS, Mars Chocolate North America, the nation's leading chocolate company, officially opened the doors of a new, state-of-the-art, roughly 500,000-square-foot facility in Topeka, Kansas—the first new Mars Chocolate North America site built in the last 35 years; and

WHEREAS, This new \$270 million facility, which will bring about 200 new jobs to Topeka, is one of the largest investments in Mars history; and

WHEREAS, For more than 100 years, Mars has been committed to making its products in the markets where it sells them, and this facility in Topeka is further proof of this commitment; and

WHEREAS, Mars, Incorporated, which was founded in 1911 by Frank C. Mars, was ranked an impressive 96th place in 2013 and 76th place in 2014 in Fortune Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For, due to the company's ongoing commitment to make Mars an inspiring place to work for its 75,000 associates employed at its sites around the world; and

WHEREAS, The Topeka Plant will produce over eight million Snickers Minis per day and 1.5 million M&M's fun size per day, which equates to 39 million individual M&M's chocolate candies per day; and

WHEREAS, Of their 10 Mars Chocolate North America factories, seven have produced no waste going to landfills, and the factory in Topeka will be the first North American factory to start out sending no waste to landfills. The factory is designed to achieve a U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) designation and the plant is pursuing onsite renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, Before and after the August 2011 groundbreaking, Mars Chocolate North America Topeka has worked closely with Topeka community members, stakeholders, dignitaries and elected officials from the city, state and federal level on the plant's development; and

WHEREAS, It is the policy of the Senate to pay tribute to a progressive company such as Mars, Incorporated, which operates under the five excellent principles of quality, responsibility, mutuality, efficiency and freedom which, in turn, not only benefits Topeka and its surrounding areas but this great state as a whole: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we designate March 27, 2014, as Mars Chocolate North America Day. We do hereby commend Mars Chocolate North America upon the special occasion of its Topeka plant Grand Opening and wish it success in all its future endeavors.

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator V. Schmidt.

Senate Resolution No. 1807 was sponsored by Senators V. Schmidt, Hensley and Kelly.

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

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.