

1 RESOLUTION NO. _____
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3 A RESOLUTION introduced by City Manager Jim Colson, requesting the Kansas
4 Department of Transportation to install "Home of Harry W. Colmery,
5 Author of the GI Bill" signs on the interstate highway around the city
6 limits and retain the existing "Home of Ron Evans" signs
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8 WHEREAS, the Servicemen's Readjustment Act, also known as the "G.I. Bill"
9 became law on June 22, 1944; and

10 WHEREAS, the G.I. Bill is one of the most significant laws in American history
11 because it provided American soldiers returning from World War II and other military
12 conflicts the financial resources to acquire education, obtain health benefits and secure
13 low-interest loans; and

14 WHEREAS, the G.I. Bill transformed the United States both economically and
15 socially by creating a middle class; and

16 WHEREAS, the architect of the G.I. Bill was Topeka's own Harry W. Colmery: a
17 World War I veteran, attorney and American Legion national commander who wanted
18 veterans to avoid the unemployment and poverty that his fellow World War I veterans
19 faced when returning from service; and

20 WHEREAS, it is fitting to memorialize Mr. Colmery so that his efforts are not
21 forgotten; and

22 WHEREAS, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has a "Home Of"
23 program allowing cities to request that a person's name be placed on signs located at
24 various points on the interstate highway in the vicinity of the city limits; and

25 WHEREAS, the current "Home Of" sign honors Astronaut Ron Evans, a graduate of
26 Highland Park High School and the University of Kansas, who, as a member of Apollo 17,
27 orbited the moon in 1972.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
29 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, that:

30 (1) The Governing Body recognizes the efforts of Harry W. Colmery and is desirous
31 of memorializing his name. As such, the Governing Body requests that KDOT install signs
32 with the caption: "Home of Harry W. Colmery, Author of the GI Bill" at various points on
33 the interstate highway around the city limits, as determined by KDOT; and

34 (2) The Governing Body requests that KDOT retain the "Home of Ron Evans" signs
35 located on the interstate highway around the city limits.

36 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the Governing Body on _____.

37 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS
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42 _____
43 Larry E. Wolgast, Mayor
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45 ATTEST:
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Brenda Younger, City Clerk