

RESOLUTION NO. 7215

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A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmember Clark Duffy regarding the City of Topeka's concern with the proposed downsizing of the Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center in Topeka.

WHEREAS, it has been widely reported that the Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center in Topeka may be downsized resulting in the loss of important jobs and medical services for veterans in Topeka; and

WHEREAS, the downsizing of this important Veterans Administration Medical Center in Topeka, serving many veterans who have paid a personal sacrifice to serve our country when called upon, will have a damaging effect on veterans served by the Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Topekan's have watched many important institutions, industries and employment centers decline, shut down and move from Topeka; and

WHEREAS, the Topeka Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center once known as a strong regional health care center for veterans, including veterans residing in Topeka, is fast showing signs of losing this once recognized reputation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Topeka, Kansas, that they express their deep concern that the Topeka Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center may be downsized, with some of its current mission transferred to other locations and eliminated from Topeka, resulting in the loss of important jobs and medical services to veterans.

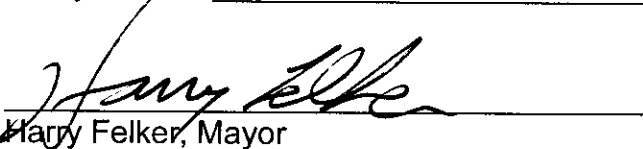
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that with our country at war with international terrorists, calling upon thousands of active military personnel to participate, and who in


26 turn will be the next generation of veterans to be served by the Veterans Administration,
27 we believe this is the wrong time to downsize the mission of the Topeka Colmery-O'Neil
28 Veterans Administration Medical Center.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our concerns be communicated with a copy of
30 this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the U.S.
31 Department of Veterans Affairs, Members of the Kansas Congressional Delegation and
32 Governor of Kansas asking them to do what they can to stop the downsizing of the
33 Topeka Colmery-O'Neil Veterans Administration Medical Center and to urge that this
34 important medical facility be fully budgeted and staffed to meet the medical needs of
35 veterans today and in the future.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Council of the City of
37 Topeka and the City of Topeka stand ready to assist and offer to be of help in
38 accomplishing this goal.

39 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council FEB 12 2002

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44 Harry Felker, Mayor

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46 Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE 2/6/02 BY BL

