

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1780

A RESOLUTION congratulating Sporting Kansas City on their victory
in the Major League Soccer Cup Final match.

WHEREAS, Sporting Kansas City won the Major League Soccer (MLS) Cup Final match on December 7, 2013, with a victory over Real Salt Lake; and

WHEREAS, This historic MLS Cup win is Sporting Kansas City's first MLS Cup since 2000, when the team was known as the Wizards; and

WHEREAS, On a frigid day at sold-out Sporting Park, with temperatures in the low 20s after kickoff, the teams played to a 1-1 deadlock over 90 minutes plus a 30-minute overtime to send the match to penalty kicks; and

WHEREAS, Shootouts are typically scheduled for five rounds, yet it took 10 rounds before Sporting Kansas City won the shootout 7-6 over Real Salt Lake; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas City MLS franchise was founded in 1996 as the Kansas City Wiz, and renamed itself after the first season, becoming the Wizards; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas City MLS franchise rebranded itself in 2011 to become Sporting Kansas City, following a recent tradition in MLS of adopting European-style names; and

WHEREAS, The members of the championship team are: Claudio Bieler, Matt Besler, Federico Bessone, Teal Bunbury, Aurelien Collin, Dom Dwyer, Benny Feilhaber, Eric Kronberg, Chance Myers, Paulo Nagamura, Jimmy Nielsen, Lawrence Olum, Ike Opara, Jacob Peterson, Oriol Rosell, C. J. Sapong, Seth Sinovic and Graham Zusi; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Peter Vermes has been with Sporting Kansas City since 2006, and has been head coach since 2009. During Peter Vermes' tenure as head coach, the team won the MLS Eastern Conference regular season in 2011 and 2012, the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup in 2012 and the MLS Eastern Conference playoffs in 2013, which led to the team's victory in the MLS Cup. Peter Vermes became the first person in MLS history to win the MLS Cup with the same club as both player in 2000, and manager in 2013: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate Sporting Kansas City and Coach Peter Vermes for winning the 2013 MLS Cup. Their hard work and athleticism are points of pride for Kansas. We wish the athletes and Coach Vermes continued success; and

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

Senate Resolution No. 1780 was sponsored by Senator Steve Fitzgerald.

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.