

Reps. Pearce, Accavitti, Agema, Amos, Ball, Bieda, Booher, Brandenburg, Byrnes, Constan, Cushingberry, Dean, Garfield, Green, Hammel, Hansen, Hopgood, Horn, Rick Jones, Robert Jones, Lahti, Lemmons, Marleau, Moss, Nitz, Opsommer, Pastor, Proos, Rocca, Sak, Scott, Shaffer, Sheltrown, Alma Smith, Spade and Vagnozzi offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 430.

A resolution commemorating the 125th anniversary of Wolverine World Wide.

Whereas, Wolverine was founded in 1883 by G. A. Krause. The company headquarters is located in Rockford, Michigan; and

Whereas, For more than a century, Wolverine has been relentless in its pursuit of providing comfortable and innovative footwear, apparel, and gear for consumers; and

Whereas, By 1903, the shoe factory specializing in work shoes made 300 pairs each day, built with tough, durable horsehide that by 1914 was supplied by their own tannery and nicknamed the “1000 mile shoes”; and

Whereas, In 1919, the Wolverine brand became very popular nationally and was marketed by one of the earliest national sales forces; and

Whereas, Flushed with success in 1921, the Hirth-Krause Company changed its name to Wolverine Shoe and Tanning Corporation and continued to grow; and

Whereas, During the Great Depression, when sales were down, the factory lines were kept running and shoes were warehoused for better times; and

Whereas, During World War II the Wolverine Shoe and Tanning Company produced pigskin gloves for the United States Navy and by the end of the war Wolverine engineers created pigskin suede, a new type of leather; and

Whereas, In 1964, Wolverine Shoe and Tanning Company was renamed Wolverine World Wide, Inc., and shortly thereafter was traded on the New York Stock Exchange; and

Whereas, The company went on to introduce Wolverine[®] DuraShocks[®] utilizing the first true comfort system for workboots and creating a revolution with lighter, longer-lasting products; and

Whereas, In recent years, Wolverine’s apparel collection has expanded greatly, providing durable apparel for work and rugged casual wear; and

Whereas, In 2007, Wolverine was awarded the Polartec APEX[™] Design Award for Wolverine’s outstanding and innovative use of Polartec fabrics; and

Whereas, In 2008, Wolverine was awarded its ninth consecutive Plus Award, a footwear trade industry award for excellence in design in the work footwear category, continuing its tenure as the leading producer of work boots in the industry; and

Whereas, With its commitment to outdoor adventures and awareness, Wolverine supports The Wolverine Foundation and its research of the wolverine and the Yellowstone National Park ecosystem; and

Whereas, During Wolverine’s 125 years, the company has displayed a genuine commitment to the community through its philanthropic efforts; and

Whereas, In celebration of its 125th anniversary and inspired by the company’s heritage, Wolverine will debut the Heritage Collection that will consist of a series of boots and shoes featuring distressed leather and vintage design details; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body commemorate the 125th anniversary of Wolverine World Wide.