

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6006

By Representative McCreary

6-24

10 A RESOLUTION concerning funding for public schools.

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12 WHEREAS, The legislature has shown good faith to comply with all
13 of the directives of the supreme court's preliminary ruling issued in Jan-
14 uary 2005 by increasing funds for special education, at-risk students, bi-
15 lingual students, increasing the base per pupil budget and other expend-
16 itures. The legislature has appropriated \$142 million of new moneys,
17 which is the largest single-year increase in over a decade; and

18 WHEREAS, There are significant new demands of the out year budg-
19 ets to fund the Kansas public employees retirement system, the compre-
20 hensive highway plan and growth in education spending dictated by 2005
21 House Bill No. 2247. These demands, coupled with an additional \$143.1
22 million mandated by the supreme court in June 2005 will result in a
23 financial crisis to the state of Kansas. This will result in an ending balance
24 deficit of \$117.4 million in fiscal year 2007 and an ending balance deficit
25 of \$510.6 million in fiscal year 2008; and

26 WHEREAS, To address this large deficit in our state budget, it would
27 necessitate a \$1.2 billion tax increase beginning in fiscal year 2007 on the
28 citizens of Kansas to repair the fiscal damage caused by the supreme court
29 demands; and

30 WHEREAS, May it be known: That this projected budget profile in-
31 cludes the \$86 million additional revenue identified in 2005 and the \$86
32 million increase in revenue projected for fiscal year 2006: Now, therefore,

33 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kan-*
34 *sas:* That as responsible elected representatives of the citizens of Kan-
35 sas, we have addressed the preliminary ruling of the supreme court, and
36 for the reasons stated herein cannot be bound by the dollar amount dic-
37 tated by the supreme court. This decision is an infringement on the right
38 and responsibility of the legislature as determined by the Kansas consti-
39 tution. The amount of money provided for public education or any other
40 program is the responsibility of the elected legislative body.