

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1828

A RESOLUTION concerning the consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons 21 years of age or younger.

WHEREAS, The consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons who are under the legal age to consume them is a critical health and safety issue; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol is a powerful, mood-altering drug that dramatically affects a child's development and behavior, and its use by children is not just another rite of passage on the way to adulthood; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that the brain continues developing through the teens and into the twenties, establishing important communication connections and refining its functions; scientists believe that this developmental period may explain the propensity of adolescents to seek new and potentially dangerous situations, sometimes including experimentation with alcohol, and the impulsivity of teens that often causes them to fail to recognize that their actions, such as drinking, have consequences; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol use is a leading risk factor in the main causes of death among youth, including suicide, homicide and motor vehicle crashes and other injuries such as falls, burns and drowning, and often leads to other adverse consequences such as engaging in risky sexual behavior, using other drugs such as marijuana and cocaine and earning poor grades in school; and

WHEREAS, The average age that Kansas youth begin drinking is 13, and 9% of sixth graders, 25% of eighth graders, 42% of tenth graders and 55% of twelfth graders have had beer, wine or liquor at least once in the past 30 days; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Team on Underage Drinking is comprised of Shelley V. Bearman from the Office of Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius; Kelly Peak from the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Addiction and Prevention Services, Mike Padilla and Joe Garman from the Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control; Lori Haskett from the Department of Health and Environment, Office of Injury and Disability Prevention; Ramon W. Ramirez from the Kansas Highway Patrol; Tracie Kalic from the Kansas State Department of Education, Office of State and Federal Programs; Pete Bodyk from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Bureau of Traffic Safety; Michelle Voth from Kansas Family Partnership, Inc., a group that has worked with representatives of federal agencies and their counterparts from across the nation on the issue of prevention of underage drinking; and

WHEREAS, There is a nationwide effort for communities to hold town hall-style meetings on or around March 28, 2006, to learn about new research on underage drinking and to discuss ways to prevent underage alcohol use, and over 26 of these town hall meetings will be conducted in Kansas communities throughout the state: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we designate March 29, 2006, "Underage Drinking Prevention Day" in Kansas.

Senate Resolution No. 1828 was sponsored by Senators Barnett and Kelly, Allen, Apple, Barone, Betts, Brownlee, Bruce, Brungardt, Donovan, Emler, Francisco, Gilstrap, Goodwin, Haley, Hensley, Huelskamp, Jordan, Journey, Lee, McGinn, Morris, O'Connor, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Petersen, Pine, Pyle, Reitz, D. Schmidt, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil, Wagle, Wilson and Wysong.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*