

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6006

A RESOLUTION declaring January as Kansas Mentoring Month.

WHEREAS, The citizens of Kansas recognize that our success depends on helping every child succeed in school and reach their full potential in life and to accomplish this young Kansans need a solid foundation of support to help them become well-educated, confident and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mentoring is a proven, effective strategy that helps children and young adults by matching them with a caring, responsible adult who can provide guidance and direction and build their confidence; and

WHEREAS, Mentors build character, encourage success, boost confidence, lift expectations and expand the universe of a child, serving as friends, role models, teachers and sources of stability and support during a critical time in a child's life; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that mentoring has beneficial and long-term effects on youth by increasing their chances of high school graduation and college attendance and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, Mentoring strengthens our Kansas economic and social well-being by helping young people fulfill their potential while helping maintain healthy families and promoting more vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, Every day residents of Kansas are making a profound difference in the lives of our young people by serving as mentors, supported by many private and public sector organizations that offer mentoring opportunities for youth; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of Kansas children are in need of a caring adult mentor in their lives, and closing this mentoring gap will take more investment, partnerships and volunteers ready to make a difference in a child's life; and

WHEREAS, Kansas recognizes this need by supporting Kansas Mentors, a statewide mentoring partnership that works with over 175 mentoring programs to increase the number of young Kansans being served by quality mentoring relationships; and

WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month is an opportunity to raise public awareness of the importance of mentoring, recognize the dedicated individuals who serve mentors and encourage more citizens to help build a brighter future for Kansas youth through mentoring; Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That the month of January 2010 is hereby declared Kansas Mentoring Month and call upon the people of Kansas to recognize the importance of mentoring, to look for opportunities to serve as mentors in their communities and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

House Resolution No. 6006 was sponsored by Representatives Bob Bethell and Tom Hawk.

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

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*