

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1806

A RESOLUTION declaring January as Kansas Mentoring Month.

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

WHEREAS, Mentoring is a proven, effective strategy that empowers children and young adults by matching them with a caring, responsible adult who can provide guidance and direction and build the child's 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 development; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Thousands of Kansas children need a caring adult mentor in their lives and closing this mentoring gap will require greater investment, increased partnerships and more quality 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 offers an opportunity to raise public awareness of the benefits of mentoring, recognize the dedicated individuals who serve as mentors and encourage more citizens to build a brighter future for Kansas youth through mentoring; Now, therefore,

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

Senate Resolution No. 1806 was sponsored by Senators Morris, Abrams, Barnett, Brownlee, Brungardt, Emler, Francisco, Haley, Hensley, Holland, Huntington, Kelly, Kelsey, Kultala, Lee, Lynn, Marshall, McGinn, Ostmeyer, Owens, Reitz, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Umbarger, Vratil and Wagle.

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.*