

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1842

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Kavya Shivashankar of Olathe for winning the 2009 National Spelling Bee.

WHEREAS, Kavya Shivashankar, a 13-year-old student at California Trail Junior High in Olathe, is the 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion. Kavya devoted much of her free time to studying spelling, and takes her education very seriously, aspiring to one day be a neurosurgeon. She also enjoys playing the violin, bicycling, swimming and learning classical Indian dance; and

WHEREAS, Kavya, with support from her parents, Mirle and Sandy, and sister Vanya, made the trip to Washington to compete against 293 participants in the 82nd annual competition. This was Kavya's fourth appearance in the National Spelling Bee, having finished tenth, eighth and fourth over the last three years; and

WHEREAS, Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, introduced the final rounds of the competition, which was broadcast on network television in prime time; and

WHEREAS, Kavya advanced in the competition by spelling such words as "hydrargyrum," "escritoire," "blancmange," and "huisache." In the final round, Kavya correctly spelled the word "Laodicean," thus winning \$40,000 in cash and prizes. Now that she has won, she is retiring from the competition: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Kavya Shivashankar for winning the 2009 National Spelling Bee competition, take pride in her outstanding achievements as a role model for her peers in Kansas and across the nation, and wish her continued success and happiness in the future; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to give one enrolled copy of this resolution to Kavya Shivashankar, one enrolled copy to her parents, Mirle and Sandy Shivashankar and send one enrolled copy to Larry Katzif, Principal of California Trail Junior High School, 13775 W. 133rd St., Olathe, Kansas 66062.

Senate Resolution No. 1842 was sponsored by Senators Karin Brownlee and Jeff Colyer.

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

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.