

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1843

A RESOLUTION recognizing the accomplishments of the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools and urging Kansas school boards to maintain an atmosphere of safety in schools and to remain prepared for the unknown.

WHEREAS, The Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools (KC-SPS) was created in 2009 to provide a central office to coordinate safety and preparedness activities within the schools. The Center was developed as a coordinated effort with other state agencies after a need was recognized among superintendents across the state; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the KC-SPS is to coordinate, recommend and implement resources and training that will improve safe and prepared learning environments for Kansas schools. The Center will provide leadership in assisting schools in the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from crisis events that impact schools and their communities; and

WHEREAS, The KC-SPS believes that schools have a duty to provide a safe and prepared learning environment for the students, staff and patrons so that when a crisis occurs, they are ready. They seek to improve school safety and preparedness in ways that have minimal or no money costs to local schools; and

WHEREAS, School crisis events are community events, and as such, the worlds of education, emergency management and first responders should work together in advance of and continually for crisis events. Training needs to be continuous due to the changing nature of the school environment; and

WHEREAS, The KC-SPS has accomplished much since its creation, including presenting mini-grants for preparedness activities, equipment and supplies; distributing classroom and building crisis kits; creating a model school crisis plan that can be used as a guide by Kansas schools when they update their plans, and many other achievements; and

WHEREAS, The KC-SPS recognizes the positive connection between academic success and a safe and prepared learning environment, as well as that on any given day 20% or more of Kansans are gathered in a school setting, giving schools a heavy responsibility to the community to be prepared if a crisis should occur: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we recognize the achievements of the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools and encourage school boards to be prepared for the unknown within available resources and urge schools to maintain an atmosphere that makes students feel comfortable and safe, in order to create academic success and peace of mind for the community in times of crisis; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Schodorf for presentation to the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools.

Senate Resolution No. 1843 was sponsored by Senator Jean Schodorf.

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.*