

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1840

A Resolution congratulating and commending Grace Schram for being named one of the top two youth volunteers in Kansas for 2012 by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

WHEREAS, Grace Schram, 13, a resident of Leawood and an eighth-grade student at Leawood Middle School, has achieved national recognition for her exemplary volunteer service by receiving a 2012 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, Grace has raised more than \$20,000 to build two fish ponds in Africa and a home for 12 orphaned boys in Haiti through sales of her music. Thanks to Grace's efforts, two villages in South Africa and Malawi now have sustainable food and revenue sources and orphans in a small Haitian town near Port au Prince have a roof over their heads; and

WHEREAS, Grace has been singing and writing music since early childhood. Applying these talents to help children who were less fortunate, Grace decided to make a CD of original songs and sell them to family members and friends with the goal of raising \$1,000 to build one fish pond in Africa. Grace researched how to make a CD, and with the help of friends and family, she found a recording studio that would give her a discount on studio time. Six months later, Grace released her finished product, "Showers from God"; and

WHEREAS, Because of her efforts, Grace was nominated by Leawood Middle School for the Prudential Spirit of Community Award. This prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial, Inc., in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities. As a state honoree, Grace received \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expense paid trip in early May 2012 to Washington, D.C., where she will join other honorees from each of the other states and the District of Columbia for several days of national recognition events; and

WHEREAS, The success of the state of Kansas, the strength of our communities and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Grace who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Grace Schram for being named one of two state recipients of the Prudential Spirit of Community Award, we honor her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership and community spirit, and we extend our best wishes for her continued success and happiness; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Vratil.

Senate Resolution No. 1840 was sponsored by Senator John Vratil.

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.