

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1860

A RESOLUTION in support of Kevin V. Saunders.

WHEREAS, Although far from a household name, Kevin Saunders has one of the most interesting and heartening stories ever heard: Raised on a farm in the heartland of America and injured in an explosion that left 10 coworkers dead, Kevin was hurled over 300 feet through the air onto a concrete parking lot. His body was broken at the chest like people bend at the waist. With massive internal and external injuries he was not expected to live; and

WHEREAS, Fitness, wellness and the grace of God helped Kevin become a world champion wheelchair athlete and gold medalist many times over. He became part of our nation's history books by being the first person with a disability appointed to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports by President George H. Bush, and the only person reappointed by President Clinton. He has been a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports for eight years and would like to be named the Chairperson of the Council; and

WHEREAS, As a result of his success in wheelchair athletics, Kevin captured the attention of Academy Award-winning director, Oliver Stone. This led to an appearance with Tom Cruise in the movie, "Born on the 4th of July"; and

WHEREAS, As a motivational speaker, Kevin's objective is to serve as a catalyst to promote, encourage and motivate the development of physical fitness and sports participation for Americans of all ages. Kevin travels the world motivating organizations, schools, associations and fortune 500 companies with a message of living a fit and healthy lifestyle. Kevin's book, *There's Always A Way*, tells how Kevin reached past the pain to find the champion within. Kevin's desire is to create positive changes that improve life for people with disabilities worldwide and to help people to focus on abilities rather than disabilities. He also identifies with people who face challenges that seem overwhelming on a daily basis and gives them the source of inspiration to forge a new path for success: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we express our admiration for Kevin Saunders' motivating influence on others and support him in his quest to be named as Chairperson of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the members of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and to Kevin V. Saunders, P.O. Box 7, Downs, Kansas 67437.

Senate Resolution No. 1860 was sponsored by Senator Janis K. Lee.

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.*