

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1817

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Tracy Callard for being named the
2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, Tracy Callard, a fourth-grade teacher at Horace Mann Foreign Language Elementary Magnet School in Wichita, has been named the 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year by the Kansas State Department of Education. She was named teacher of the year from a field of eight finalists selected from more than 100 nominations. Throughout the coming year, all of the finalists will work as a team as advocates for education and teaching; and

WHEREAS, As teacher of the year, Ms. Callard received cash grants from several sponsoring organizations, a computer and the use of an automobile plus travel expenses while fulfilling her duties as Kansas Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, While many teachers have left their profession for better paying jobs, Ms. Callard left a career as a corporate attorney to pursue her dream of becoming an elementary school teacher, a decision she has never regretted. She attributes her success in the classroom to her teaching philosophy to: Let students know you care about them and believe in them; focus on what is right about each child and push every child to reach the child's maximum. Her success is evident as her students consistently score high academically although they consist primarily of students who live within federal poverty guidelines and come from homes where a language other than English is spoken; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Callard has been named also as one of four finalists of the year for selection as the 2002 National Teacher of the Year. In the past Kansas has had only three national finalists including the 1962 National Teacher of the Year. This activity is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic Inc. The National Teacher of the Year will be selected by educators representing 15 leading national education organizations: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Tracy Callard upon being named the 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year and as a finalist for selection as National Teacher of the Year and express our gratitude for the devotion and success she gives to her profession; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Mr. Andy Thompkins, Commissioner of Education, Kansas State Department of Education, 120 S.E. 10th Ave., Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182; Mr. Winston Brooks, Superintendent, Wichita Public Schools, 201 N. Water, Wichita, Kansas 67202-1292; Ms. Janet Jump, Principal, Horace Mann Foreign Language Elementary Magnet School, and to Ms. Tracy Callard, Horace Mann Foreign Language Elementary Magnet School, both at 1243 N. Market, Wichita, Kansas 67214-2834.

Senate Resolution No. 1817 was sponsored by Senators Schodorf, Donovan, Gooch, Harrington and Wagle.

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.