

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1840

By Committee on Public Health and Welfare

3-31

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9 A RESOLUTION in support of fluoride.

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11 WHEREAS, Fluoridation was recently listed by the United States  
12 Centers for Disease Control as one of the ten greatest public health  
13 achievements of the twentieth century; and

14 WHEREAS, Fluoridation is the precise adjustment of the existing nat-  
15 urally occurring fluoride levels in drinking water to an optimal level that  
16 has been determined to be ideal for the prevention of dental cavities in  
17 children and adults; and

18 WHEREAS, Fluoride has been used safely and effectively to reduce  
19 dental decay through community water since 1945; and

20 WHEREAS, Former United States Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett  
21 Koop stated that “Fluoridation is the single most important commitment  
22 a community can make to the oral health of its children and to future  
23 generations.”; and

24 WHEREAS, An independent study by the Kansas Health Institute  
25 showed that the rate of dental decay of children in a nonfluoridated Kan-  
26 sas community was 59% higher than the national average; and

27 WHEREAS, Dental decay is an infectious disease which can be largely  
28 prevented through a health routine that includes good oral hygiene, diet  
29 and fluoride; and

30 WHEREAS, Dental decay can lead to complications such as abscessed  
31 teeth and is linked to such serious health conditions as premature delivery  
32 of infants, heart disease, lung disease and low birth-weight babies; and

33 WHEREAS, Thirty-eight percent of Kansans do not have access to  
34 optimally fluoridated water; and

35 WHEREAS, Over 100 recognized health and other organizations in  
36 the United States support community water fluoridation as an effective  
37 and safe method to reduce dental caries; and

38 WHEREAS, Dental disease leads to higher insurance premiums,  
39 higher business costs, lost time at work and at school; and

40 WHEREAS, Kansas taxpayers are bearing the burden of higher Med-  
41 icaid costs from nonfluoridated communities; Now, therefore,

42 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the Kansas  
43 Senate recognizes the benefits of community water fluoridation; and

- 1 *Be it further resolved:* That the Kansas Senate urges all communities
- 2 in Kansas to offer its citizens the benefits of optimally fluoridated water.