

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1849

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the Paola Panther robotics team.

WHEREAS, Panther robotics team number 1108 of Paola was formed in 2002 to provide opportunities for high school students to develop their interest in technology, science and mathematics. The team competes yearly in FIRST Robotics competitions throughout the United States. This activity is sponsored by an organization known as FIRST, which is an acronym describing For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, an organization which has 1,200 teams worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Every year the FIRST organization creates a new challenge which is provided to all teams. With the task or challenge is a kit containing a control system and other parts which are required to be used to construct the robot, but other operating parts and decisions as to how the robot is to be constructed are provided by the individual team. The team has six weeks to design and construct its robot which it may enter in competition at one of 30 regional competitions. Of the 1,200 teams competing, 350 qualify to compete at the world championship event, but only the regional champions are eligible to compete for the world champion award; and

WHEREAS, This year team number 1108 has 22 student members who are assisted by 10 adult mentors. While not a school sponsored activity, the high school provides space for the team to meet, and two of the mentors are faculty members; and

WHEREAS, In partnership with the Kauffman Foundation, the team has worked to secure funds and recruit 26 new Kansas City area teams with the hope of having a regional competition at Kansas City in 2007. Locally the team has sponsored several workshops for elementary and middle school students, and at the college level has worked to establish scholarships for participants and to provide workshops for new robotics teams; and

WHEREAS, The team has been successful since its inception. In their rookie year the team built a successful team and robot earning the following awards at the 2003 Lone Star Regional Competition:

- Lone Star Regional Champion
- Lone Star Rookie All-star Award
- Lone Star Motorola Quality Award
- Lone Star Daimler Chrysler Team Spirit Award
- Lone Star Number One Seed
- Lone Star Highest Rookie Seed

Success at the regional level provided the team the opportunity to compete at the Championship event in Houston, Texas, where the team received the highest award available to new teams, the Championship Rookie All-star Award; and

WHEREAS, The team's efforts have been recognized at competitions by professionals in science and technology as well as by their peers and in the community with the following awards:

FIRST AWARDS

2006

- Wisconsin Regional Chairman's Award
- Wisconsin Regional Web Design Award
- Wisconsin Regional Safety Honorable Mention

2005

- Championship Finalist Galileo Division
- Boilermaker Regional Chairman's Award
- Boilermaker Regional Daily Safety Star Award

2004

- Lone Star Regional Chairman's Award
- Lone Star Xerox Creativity Award

2003

- Championship Rookie All-star Award
- Lone Star Regional Champion
- Lone Star Rookie All-star Award
- Lone Star Motorola Quality Award
- Lone Star Daimler Chrysler Team Spirit Award
- Lone Star Number One Seed
- Lone Star Highest Rookie Seed

WHEREAS, This is a team to be proud of. Students of varying abilities work with community mentors and professionals bringing out the best in all involved: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend the Paola Panther Robotics team number 1108 for its past success in robotics competition and wish it success at this year's worldwide competition.

Senate Resolution No. 1849 was sponsored by Senator Pat Apple.

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.