

## Senate Resolution No. 1828

By Senators Pilcher-Cook, Brownlee, Bruce, Colyer, Kelsey, Masterson,  
Ostmeyer, Petersen, Taddiken and Wagle

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10 A RESOLUTION in support of religious freedom for Coptic Christians

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12 WHEREAS, Coptic Christians are a Christian minority comprising ap-  
13 proximately 10% of the Egyptian population and are an integral part of  
14 Egyptian society; and

15 WHEREAS, Egypt's Coptic Christian population is a victim of a sys-  
16 tematic pattern of violence, including attacks as recently as January 6,  
17 2010; and

18 WHEREAS, The United States Department of State's 2009 Report on  
19 International Religious Freedom states that the status of the Egyptian  
20 government's respect for religious freedom "declined somewhat during  
21 the reporting period based on a failure to investigate and prosecute per-  
22 petrators of increased incidents of sectarian violence"; and

23 WHEREAS, The foundation of the United States Constitution and the  
24 Kansas Constitution are freedom and justice: Now, therefore,

25 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the Senate of  
26 the state of Kansas urges the Egyptian government to provide better  
27 protection for the Coptic Christian population by investigating and pros-  
28 ecuting those who perpetrate violence against Coptic Christians, by com-  
29 pensating victims of such violence and by protecting and preserving Cop-  
30 tic Christian places of worship; and

31 *Be it further resolved:* That the Senate of the State of Kansas urges the  
32 Egyptian government to stop discriminatory practices that affect the Cop-  
33 tic Christian population, including the difficulty in building and repairing  
34 places of worship, the lack of representation in certain government bodies  
35 and the continued harassment of converts; and

36 *Be it further resolved:* That the Senate of the State of Kansas urges the  
37 Egyptian government to prevent incidences of religious intolerance by  
38 providing equal protection of the law and equal rights for all Egyptians,  
39 and by effectively prosecuting any such incidents that occur; and

40 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to  
41 send enrolled copies of this resolution to the United States Secretary of  
42 State and the Kansas Congressional delegation.