

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6041

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the residents of Kansas and the Kansas Volunteer Commission for their outstanding efforts in volunteerism and civic engagement.

WHEREAS, Kansas is now ranked fourth in the nation in volunteering with 807,860 volunteers providing over 82 million hours of service to Kansas communities; and

WHEREAS, Of the 626 cities in Kansas, 75% have populations of less than 1,500 persons and are most often led by community leaders that volunteer in service to these communities without paid city administrators or other paid staff; and

WHEREAS, Kansas State football coach Bill Snyder led the efforts to win the Coaches Mentoring Challenge for the sixth straight year, with 3,729 new mentors committed to assist Kansas youth. “Mentoring is a cost-effective and proven intervention that not only provides a safe and positive role model for our youth, but gives individuals in our communities a way to support their young people,” said Coach Bill Snyder, “I want to thank the thousands of individuals who signed up to become mentors and also the mentoring programs that work tirelessly to serve our youth.” Over the past six years, Kansas has recruited more than 27,000 new mentors during the Coaches Challenge competitions. Research shows that mentoring has long-term benefits for youth by increasing their chances of high school graduation and college attendance and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, In Kansas, thousands have volunteered in various senior programs, such as Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions or the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which have contributed to the benefit of and quality of life in our communities; and

WHEREAS, In Kansas, more than 6,200 people participate in national service each year through 1,100 locations in more than 45 national service projects and programs, providing direct services to our urban and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, Throughout this great state hundreds of thousands of our citizens are engaged in volunteer services to their communities each and every day, as individuals and as members of their churches and civic organizations, serving those in need and helping our communities thrive: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend our Kansas citizens and the efforts of the Kansas Volunteer Commission for all their efforts in volunteering and civic engagement; and

*Be it further resolved:* That we congratulate and commend Kansas State football coach Bill Snyder for his leadership in mentoring while serving Kansas youth.

House Resolution No. 6041 was sponsored by Representative Richard Carlson.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*