

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1812

A RESOLUTION designating April 7-13, 2014, as National Public Health Week in Kansas and supporting the American Public Health Association and the Kansas Public Health Association.

WHEREAS, The week of April 7-13 is National Public Health Week and the theme is "Public Health: Start Here"; and

WHEREAS, Since 1995, the American Public Health Association, through its sponsorship of National Public Health Week, has educated the public, policy-makers and public health professionals about issues important to improving the public's health; and

WHEREAS, Seven in 10 deaths in the U.S. are related to preventable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, One in two deaths in Kansas are related to preventable diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of our nation's healthcare dollars are spent treating such diseases. However, only 3% of our health care dollars go toward prevention; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 1/3 of all students in the United States do not graduate from high school on time. Students who do not graduate face lifelong health risks and high medical costs, and are more likely to engage in risky health behaviors. They are less likely to be employed and insured, and they earn less, all of which continues the cycle of poverty and disparity; and

WHEREAS, More than half of all cancer deaths could be prevented by making healthy choices such as; not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active and getting recommended screening tests; and

WHEREAS, Foodborne contaminants cause an average of 5,000 deaths, 325,000 hospitalizations, 76 million illnesses and cost billions of dollars annually. The five most common foodborne pathogens cost the U.S. economy more than \$44 billion each year in medical costs and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, Strong public health systems are critical for sustaining and improving the health of all Kansas communities: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we support the efforts of the American Public Health Association and the Kansas Public Health Association. Specifically, we recognize the week of April 7-13, 2014, as National Public Health Week in Kansas. We call upon the people of Kansas to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders better understand the importance of public health to a successful health system by remembering this year's theme, "Public Health: Start Here"; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send one enrolled copy of this resolution to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and one enrolled copy to the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Senate Resolution No. 1812 was sponsored by Senators Elaine Bowers and Laura Kelly.

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.