

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1828

A RESOLUTION congratulating Gail Naylor on receiving the 2014 Outstanding Speech/Debate/Theater Educator Award by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

WHEREAS, The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) annually recognizes outstanding high school speech, debate or theater educators; and

WHEREAS, Gail Naylor, a retired Silver Lake High School debate coach, has won the Section 5 award, recognizing her as the top debate coach among debate coaches in six states. As a result of being selected as a sectional award winner, Ms. Naylor will compete as a candidate for the 2014-2015 National Citation Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor received her bachelor of science degree in education, with emphases in language arts and speech, theater and debate from Emporia State University in 1973 and received her master of science degree in counseling from Emporia State University in 1997; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor began her teaching career in 1973 at Washington High School, in Washington, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor taught for 37 years at Silver Lake High School, where she was the director of the debate, speech and theater program, the chairperson of the language arts and communications department and taught speech, acting and interpretation, theater, creative writing, senior English and debate; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor served the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) in many capacities during her tenure, most recently serving as the 4A and 3-2-1A State Debate Tournament manager. She also served as a regional debate host site manager for 14 years, the director and manager of the KSHSAA State 3A Speech Tournament for eight years and helped schedule and assign debate tournament judges for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor chartered the local chapter of the National Forensics League in 1981. She has also been a member of the National Catholic Forensics League since 1988. She received the Bickel and Brewer International Public Policy Forum Distinguished Service Award for coaching in 2011 and the Catholic National Distinguished Service Award in 1999. Additionally, she was inducted into the Kansas Speech Communication Association Hall of Fame in 2007 and the Kansas Debate Coaches Invitational Hall of Fame in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor was inducted into the National Forensics League Hall of Fame in 2012. Under her direction, Silver Lake High School competed in the national tournament for 26 consecutive years. She has qualified 68 students to the national tournament, coached 10 semifinalists or finalists and coached 19 academic all-Americans; and

WHEREAS, In the National Catholic Forensics League, Ms. Naylor had 301 students qualify for the national tournament and four students as tournament semifinalists or finalists; and

WHEREAS, While competing in KSHSAA state tournaments, Ms. Naylor's students won seven 3A State Speech and Drama Team Championships between 1994 and 2004, with four of those titles being consecutive. She also coached 46 3A State Speech and Drama Individual Champions, 14 3A State Lincoln-Douglas Debate Champions and seven 3-2-1A State Debate Champions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor received the Silver Lake Teacher of the Year Award four times and was nominated for Kansas State Teacher of the year five times; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Naylor's former students describe Ms. Naylor as an iconic teacher due to her ability to teach her students how to reflect, deliberate, ponder and reason: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate Gail Naylor on receiving the 2014 Outstanding Speech/Debate/Theater Educator Award by the National Federation of State High School Associations. We thank her for her dedication to speech, debate and forensics competitions in the state of Kansas and we wish her well in the future; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Kelly.

Senate Resolution No. 1828 was sponsored by Senators Kelly, Hensley and V. Schmidt.

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

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*