

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1717

A RESOLUTION congratulating the Independence Lady Bulldogs tennis team on winning their 5th State Championship and commending Coach Ken Brown on his retirement.

WHEREAS, The Independence Lady Bulldogs tennis team won their 5th state title at the Kansas class 4A state championship; and

WHEREAS, The Lady Bulldogs won the team competition with a score of 46 points, beating out second-place McPherson by 9 points; and

WHEREAS, This year, the Lady Bulldogs won 79% of their matches, with 369 wins and 99 losses; and

WHEREAS, Members of this year's Independence Lady Bulldogs tennis team include: Sagan Shire, Halei Matthews, Shalei Matthews, Kalei Matthews, Qwynn Marquez, Calisse Papen, Katie Capps, Chelsea Cushing, Emily Wilson, Alex Keller, Abbi Groff, Caringtyn Julian, Anna Miller, Lyssa Schabel, Kaylee Bryant and Amanda Trout. The team's coach, Ken Brown, along with assistant coach Gina McLenon, worked diligently with this year's team, improving the team's skills and ultimately leading them to the 2014 class 4A state championship; and

WHEREAS, Being widely recognized as one of the preeminent tennis coaches in Kansas history, Ken Brown retired from his coaching career at the end of the 2014 fall season. Ken Brown devoted much of his professional life to teaching tennis to residents of Independence, both young and old. He spent 23 years coaching Independence Community College tennis, 22 years coaching the Bulldog tennis boys team, 7 years coaching the Lady Bulldogs, 2 years coaching the Independence Middle School tennis team and 31 years directing City Recreation Summer Tennis; and

WHEREAS, Ken Brown coached teams that won four team state titles and five individual titles; and

WHEREAS, Ken Brown was the two-time Kansas Boys Tennis Coach of the Year, winning the award in 2000 and 2007; and

WHEREAS, Ken Brown and his coaching predecessors helped Independence achieve recognition by the United States Tennis Association as one of America's top three tennis towns: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate the Independence Lady Bulldogs tennis team on its class 4A state championship. These young women have worked hard throughout the season, and this state title is a testament to that hard work; and

Be it further resolved: That we congratulate Ken Brown on a remarkable life spent molding the youth of Independence into champion athletes and even better men and women; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Jeff King.

Senate Resolution No. 1717 was sponsored by Senator Jeff King.

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.