Senate Resolution No. 1731

By Senators Pyle, Olson, Hilderbrand, Alley, Baumgardner, Braun, Denning, Estes, Lynn, Masterson, Petersen, Pilcher-Cook, Suellentrop and Wagle

A RESOLUTION calling for the immediate resignation of District Judge Jeffry Jack of the 11th Judicial District.

WHEREAS, Jeffry Jack currently serves as a district judge for the 11th Judicial District in Labette County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Jeffry Jack was nominated for the office of judge of the Court of Appeals by Governor Laura Kelly, but his nomination was subsequently withdrawn; and

WHEREAS, Governor Laura Kelly stated that it is unacceptable for a sitting judge to post political views on social media and requested the immediate withdrawal of Jeffry Jack's nomination and said that "In an era when we increasingly see Twitter and other social media platforms being used to attack and divide, we can and must do better"; and

WHEREAS, The preamble to the Kansas Code of Judicial Conduct states that judges should maintain the dignity of judicial office at all times, and avoid both impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in their professional and personal lives. They should aspire at all times to conduct that ensures the greatest possible public confidence in their independence, impartiality, integrity, and competence; and

WHEREAS, The judiciary must remain an impartial branch of government in order to maintain the respect of the citizens of Kansas and to effectively settle legal disputes and affirm the rule of law: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we call for the immediate resignation of District Judge Jeffry Jack of the 11th Judicial District in order to maintain the dignity of judicial office in Kansas; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Governor Laura Kelly, Chief Justice Lawton Nuss of the Kansas Supreme Court, and Jeffry Jack.