

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6009

By Representative D. Williams

3-14

A RESOLUTION urging the Legislature to take timely action on school finance.

WHEREAS, The education of our children is one of the basic responsibilities of our society; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Kansas mandates that the Legislature make suitable provision for financing the educational needs of the state; and

WHEREAS, By state statute, Kansas school districts must notify teachers by May 1 of each year as to whether or not their contracts are being renewed; and

WHEREAS, There are those Kansas school districts which have policies requiring they provide early notification should they have to reduce their teaching staff; and

WHEREAS, The education of our children from kindergarten through high school comprises the largest portion of our state budget, at 54%, and could continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, The state is experiencing revenue shortfalls because of the economic recession felt in Kansas and throughout our country therefore making the desired increases in school funding difficult to meet; and

WHEREAS, Finalizing school funding often occurs in the final moments of the legislative session thus delaying school districts from completing planning, budgeting and teacher contracts: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That the House of Representatives pledges to complete, along with the Senate, the necessary legislation providing for the financing of Kansas public schools from kindergarten through high school by April 5, 2002.