

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1815

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Shawnee County Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs on Armed Forces Day 2002.

WHEREAS, Armed Forces Day will be celebrated February 19, 2002, to honor the many men and women of our nation who serve in the armed forces of our country; and

WHEREAS, The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program, which was founded in 1916, has over 2,900 programs in the 50 states and overseas locations; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program is to improve the awareness of young men and women in our high schools of their responsibilities as citizens of this nation. They receive instruction in citizenship, our constitution, selected sciences, physical wellness and a variety of social issues. Instruction is provided by military retirees. The focus is on mentoring each cadet to live up to the cadet's potential as a student and citizen; the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program has been called the premier character education program in secondary schools in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Shawnee County has four programs: The Air Force program established at Highland Park High School in 1988, the Marine program established at Topeka High School in 1995, the Navy program established at Shawnee Heights High School in 2000 and the Army program established at Topeka West High School in 2001. There are 16 programs throughout the state of Kansas. The Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs have proved to be very popular and enjoy support from a variety of active military installations, veteran's organizations and state educational and political leaders; and

WHEREAS, Cadets in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs have a 13% lower drop-out rate, on average a .5 higher grade point average and 23% less disciplinary problems than other high school students: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we recognize February 19, 2002, as Armed Forces Day 2002 and congratulate and commend the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs in Shawnee County for the excellent training and guidance they provide to our cadets; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Mr. Dale Cushinberry, Principal, Highland Park High School, 2424 S.E. California Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66605; Dr. Patricia Pressman, Principal, Topeka High School, 800 S.W. 10th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612; Mr. Matthew J. Hirsch, Principal, Shawnee Heights High School, 4141 S.E. Shawnee Heights Road, Tecumseh, Kansas 66542; and Dr. Stan Wagstaff, Principal, Topeka West High School, 2001 S.W. Fairlawn Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604.

Senate Resolution No. 1815 was sponsored by Senators Hensley, Jackson and Jenkins.

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.*