SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1851

By Senator Betts

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A RESOLUTION memorializing the Congress of the United States to continue funding of the TRiO and GEARUP educational programs.

WHEREAS, The purpose of the federally authorized and funded TRiO Upward Bound and Talent Search programs and GEARUP programs is to increase the number of low-income and first generation students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, TRiO Upward Bound and Talent search programs in Kansas receive \$6,774,687 of federal funding to positively affect the lives of over 6,800 Kansas students, and GEARUP programs receive \$10,390,845 of federal funding and an additional amount of nonfederal funding of \$2,500,000 to positively affect the lives of 13,343 Kansas students; and

WHEREAS, These programs have proven to be highly successful in helping these students complete their K-12 education and succeed in postsecondary educational programs; and

WHEREAS, The federal administration's 2006 budget proposal eliminates these programs with the intent of shifting the funding to begin new initiatives. Such initiatives are uproven and may not provide the positive outcomes of these existing programs, thereby putting many of these 20,000 plus students in jeopardy of being educationally disenfranchised: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the body urges congress to continue the funding of these programs which so dramatically affect the lives of our citizens, and entreats the Kansas congressional delegation to work diligently toward that end; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Kansas congressional delegation.