SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1803

By Senator Steineger

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A RESOLUTION memorializing the Congress of the United States to end its subsidization of tobacco production.

WHEREAS, For many years Congress has funded various programs to provide assistance to farmers. Tobacco producers have shared in these subsidies with 382,596 operators receiving a total of \$528 million in payments during the period from 1995 through 2004, with the bulk of such payments going to large operators; and

WHEREAS, The folly of providing continued support for tobacco production is obvious: It is now well established that there is a direct and inextricable connection between tobacco usage and cardiovascular disease and lung cancer. The loss of life and decreased bodily functions from using tobacco products affects millions of people, and both local and national governmental entities expend large quantities of their available moneys for the care and treatment of smokers now suffering from the use of tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, Tobacco related health expenditures and the loss of worker productivity due to tobacco related sickness have a negative impact on the American economy: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That the body memorializes the Congress of the United States to end its subsidization of tobacco production; 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 legislative delegation.