

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1845

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Sophia Evans for being named one of the top two youth volunteers in Kansas for 2007 in the 12th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

WHEREAS, Sophia Evans, an esteemed resident of Baxter Springs, Kansas, and an eighth grade student at Baxter Springs Middle School, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by receiving a 2007 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, After visiting a local animal shelter, Sophia decided to take action and launched her “Paws for a Cause” campaign. Miss Evans has collected more than \$5,000 and two tons of pet food over the past three years to care for homeless animals in her community, while also educating the public about ways to reduce the problem; and

WHEREAS, Sophia started by distributing informational flyers and collection jars around Baxter Springs. She then began making posters, giving speeches, and working with the news media to call attention to the plight of homeless animals and to advocate spaying, neutering, and adopting homeless pets. The money and pet food that Sophia collected went to local animal shelters and veterinary clinics to take care of stray animals, and her project overall has resulted in less euthanasia, more adoption, and more humane conditions. Sophia has inspired 20 other volunteers to join her effort, and states that she plans to continue until the city is stray-free; and

WHEREAS, Because of her efforts, Sophia was nominated by Baxter Springs Middle School for the Prudential Spirit of Community Award. This prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities. As a State Honoree, Miss Evans will receive \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where she will join other honorees from each of the other states and the District of Columbia for several days of national recognition events; and

WHEREAS, The success of the State of Kansas, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Miss Evans who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Miss Evans for being named one of two state recipients of the Prudential Spirit of Community Award, we honor her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership and community spirit, and we extend our best wishes for her continued success and happiness; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Umbarger; Baxter Springs Middle School, 1520 Cleveland, Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713; Baxter Springs City Hall, 1445 Military, Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713; and 5 enrolled copies to Sophia Evans, 509 Garfield Avenue, Baxter Springs, Kansas 66713.

Senate Resolution No. 1845 was sponsored by Senator Dwayne Umbarger.

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.*