House Concurrent Resolution No. 5016

By Committee on Appropriations

3-17

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Kansas school districts to use carefully the federal stimulus funds received under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and to use other available funds to establish or to increase the balances in contingency reserve funds of districts.

WHEREAS, The Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will provide over \$1.7 billion in federal economic stimulus funds to the state of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The funds are designed to stimulate the economy in the short term and for investment in education and other essential public services to ensure the long-term economic health of our nation; and

WHEREAS, The State of Kansas will receive over \$875 million in federal economic stimulus funds under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for educational purposes; and

WHEREAS, Approximately \$600 million of the federal economic stimulus funds under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will be expended for primary and secondary education in the state of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The projected State General Fund receipts for the state of Kansas forecast significant shortfalls in the balances of the State General Fund, perhaps, by some projections as high as 23% in Fiscal Year 2012; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of the United States Department of Education, Arne Duncan, has cautioned state and school district officials that federal economic stimulus funds received under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 are provided on a one-time basis and that state and school district officials need to find the best way to stretch every dollar and not to spend such funds to finance on-going programs; and

WHEREAS, School districts should take steps to be prepared for the possibility that unless the state and national economy markedly improves, in Fiscal Year 2012 the State General Fund could face a potential shortfall of huge proportions resulting in the reduction of appropriation of state moneys for school districts: Now, therefore,

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Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That we encourage school districts to utilize carefully one-time federal economic stimulus funds received under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and not to finance on-going programs with such funds; and

Be it further resolved: That we encourage the school districts to be

Be it further resolved: That we encourage the school districts to be responsible stewards of the school funds and to establish or increase the balances in contingency reserve funds of districts with other available funds in order to be prepared for the projected shortfall in state moneys in Fiscal Year 2012; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education who shall provide copies to the chairperson of the board of education of each school district and the superintendent of each school district.