Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1619

By Committee on Education

2-13

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION supporting information technology education opportunities in Kansas public schools.

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WHEREAS, Acquiring skills on the latest technologies helps students to become better collaborators, communicators, critical thinkers, innovators, problem solvers and citizens of our global economy; and

WHEREAS, A goal of the state of Kansas is to prepare students to live, learn and work as productive citizens in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas legislature intends to provide for a public school system which promotes the educational achievements of students and encourages student successes in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Many Kansas employers already expect and demand 21st century information technology skills and industry-recognized information technology certifications; and

WHEREAS, Employment in the information technology field is projected to grow rapidly as employers and consumers continue to increase the use of information technology services; and

WHEREAS, Over the next decade, information technology employment opportunities are projected to outpace similar professional, scientific and technical industries; and

WHEREAS, Implementing information technology education programs in Kansas public schools will prepare students for a competitive global economy, will help students capitalize on future career opportunities and will strengthen Kansas' workforce and economy; and

WHEREAS, Information technology programs in Kansas public schools will boost students' workforce readiness, will drive academic transition and enhance pre-college preparation; and

WHEREAS, A suitable information technology education program will provide students with industry-relevant skills-based learning and provide the opportunity for students to graduate with a broad base of industry-recognized certifications; and

WHEREAS, Such information technology education program must also provide teachers, staff, administrators and employees with the necessary training, guidance, tools and support in order for students to most effectively benefit from the information technology program: Now, therefore,

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Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein: That the legislature supports the implementation and oversight of a statewide information technology education program in Kansas public schools that offers the very latest information technology curriculum, industry-recognized certifications, sustainable long-term learning framework and professional development for instructors.