

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1766

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the Kansas recipient of the 2015 Milken Educator Award.

WHEREAS, Bill Smithyman, high school language arts teacher at Blue Valley Northwest High School, Blue Valley USD 229, has been selected as the Kansas recipient of the 2015 Milken Educator Award. He will receive an unrestricted award of \$25,000, plus recognition by his community, school and peers; and

WHEREAS, The Milken Educator Awards program was established by the Milken Family Foundation in 1985 and the first awards were presented in 1987; and

WHEREAS, The Milken Educator Awards program provides public recognition and financial awards to elementary and secondary school teachers, principals and other educational professionals who are furthering excellence in education. By honoring outstanding educators, the program strives to attract, retain and motivate talented people to the challenge and adventure of teaching; and

WHEREAS, The Milken Educator Awards are announced each year at a surprise notification held during an all-school assembly. Foundation representatives and the chief state school officer make the announcements. Bill Smithyman was one of about 40 educators around the country recognized with the award this year. By publicizing these awards, our communities are reminded of the crucial, positive impact of educators. Furthermore, it is hoped these awards will attract the attention of those who might consider teaching as a rewarding career choice: Now, therefore,

***Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate and commend Bill Smithyman upon his selection as the Kansas recipient of the 2015 Milken Educator Award; and**

***Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education for forwarding to the 2015 Milken Educator, plus one copy to the Commissioner of Education.**

Senate Resolution No. 1766 was sponsored by Senator Steve E. Abrams.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.