

Journal of the House

SECOND DAY

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
TOPEKA, KS, Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 11:00 a.m.

The House met pursuant to adjournment with Speaker Merrick in the chair.

The roll was called with 122 members present.

Reps. Hutton and Kelley were excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Member-Elect Claeys was excused on excused absence by the Speaker.

Prayer by Chaplain Brubaker:

God in Heaven,
With the excitement and fanfare of the “first day of a new session” over,
we come together to begin the work of making Kansas a better state.
There were many promises made to get this done,
but as we gather here, we recognize there are many differences
in how these promises are to be fulfilled.
I pray that You give this body of leaders a spirit of unity in their diversity.
For our returning representatives,
help them to be open to new ideas and willing to listen and learn from
the new voices that have joined this body.
For our new freshmen representatives,
may their excitement, determination and ideologies be contagious,
but at the same time teach them to be patient, teachable and understanding.
As this body works together in a spirit of cooperation
and collaboration with one another,
give them the grace and ability to have the same spirit
in working with the Senate, the Governor, and other heads of state.
Lord, for Kansas to be the kind of state that brings honor to You,
and be an example to other states,
we need Your help.
I come before You and ask for this help today in Your Name,
Amen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rep. Dierks.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Dierks are spread upon the Journal:

Yesterday, Governor Brownback and others mentioned the important role our spouses and families play in our success.

Columbus, Ohio, is the birth place of my mother, Evelyn Collier, and three of our children, Erich, Christopher and Susan Dierks. My husband, Heinz, is also an alum of Ohio State University.

This morning in the Statehouse located in Columbus, Ohio, the members of that legislative body are celebrating an event just as we have on several occasions.

Yesterday, young men took to the football field in Ohio. Those men became the champions of the first National Collegiate playoff.

I wanted to share this with you to emphasize that no matter where we live, there are families who are proud of their youth, just as we in Kansas are proud of our young men and women.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following bill was introduced and read by title:

HB 2015, AN ACT concerning the revised Kansas juvenile justice code; relating to sentencing for misdemeanor offenses; amending K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 38-2369 and repealing the existing section, by Committee on Joint Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice Oversight.

REFERENCE OF BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS

The following prefiled bills and resolutions were referred to committees as indicated:

Agriculture and Natural Resources: **HB 2014**.

Appropriations: **HB 2005, HB 2010, HB 2012**.

Education: **HB 2008**.

Federal and State Affairs: **HB 2007**.

Health and Human Services: **HB 2004, HB 2011**.

Judiciary: **HB 2002, HB 2009**.

Local Government: **HB 2003, HB 2006**.

Rules and Journal: **HCR 5002, HR 6004**.

Taxation: **HB 2001**.

Transportation: **HB 2013**.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE OFFICERS

From Derek Schmidt, Kansas Attorney General, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-723, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Unit (ANE), Annual Report July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

The complete report is kept on file and open for inspection in the office of the Chief Clerk.

INTRODUCTION OF ORIGINAL MOTIONS AND HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On emergency motion of Rep. Highland, **HR 6005**, by Reps. Highland and Estes, as follows, was introduced and adopted:

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. **HR 6005**—A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the members of the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year team.

WHEREAS, The Kansas state department of education sponsors the Kansas Teacher of the Year program which identifies, recognizes and utilizes representatives of excellent teaching in the elementary and secondary classrooms of the state. The mission of the program is to build and utilize a network of exemplary teachers who are leaders in the improvement of schools, student performance and the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, Two teachers — one elementary and one secondary — in each of the state's four United States congressional districts were selected as finalists for recognition as Kansas Teacher of the Year; the Kansas Teacher of the Year being chosen from among the eight finalists. The Kansas Teacher of the Year is awarded the Hubbard Foundation Kansas Teacher of the Year Ambassadorship, which enables the person selected to devote significant time during the second semester to activities to support the mission of the program. The 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year and finalists were honored at an awards banquet on November 22, 2014. All members received a cash award as well as mementos of the events; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Teacher of the Year is nominated to represent Kansas in the National Teacher of the Year program, a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers in partnership with the Voya Foundation and People to People Ambassador Programs; and

WHEREAS, The 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year is Shannon Ralph, Dodge City USD 443, and the regional finalists are Beau T. Bragg, Bonner Springs-Edwardsville USD 204; Abby M. Hedrick, Paola USD 368; Jennifer Hofferber, Liberal USD 480; Lisa Holt, Winfield USD 465; Jamie McDaniel, Paola USD 368; Dennis Munk, Haysville USD 261; and Kimberly Nelson, Bonner Springs-Edwardsville USD 204: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend the members of the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year team and wish Mrs. Ralph success in the national competition.

There being no objection, the following remarks of Rep. Estes are spread upon the Journal:

The 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year was selected from a pool of nearly 100 nominations. The 2015 finalists are: Jennifer Hofferber, a special education teacher at Sunflower Intermediate School in Liberal (Liberal USD 480); Jamie McDaniel, a fifth-grade teacher at Sunflower Elementary School in Paola (Paola USD 368); Abby M. Hedrick, a seventh-grade mathematics teacher at Paola Middle School (Paola USD 368); Beau T. Bragg, a physical education teacher at Bonner Springs Elementary School in Bonner Springs (Bonner Springs/Edwardsville USD 204); Kimberly Nelson, a sixth grade English language arts teacher at Robert E. Clark Middle School in Bonner Springs (Bonner Springs/Edwardsville USD 204); Lisa Holt, a special education teacher

at Country View Elementary School in Winfield (Winfield USD 465); and Dennis Munk, a physical education teacher, including medical career exploration, sports medicine and health science, at Campus High School in Wichita (Haysville USD 261).

Shannon Ralph, a high school biology teacher at Dodge City High School (Dodge City USD 443), was named the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year. She has clearly demonstrated her ability to innovate, lead and inspire both within and outside the classroom. Thanks to her passion for the sciences and her ability to really connect with her students, Shannon has substantially increased Dodge City students' interest in science learning and serves as a powerful role model for STEM careers.

Mrs. Ralph has taught in Kansas at the middle school and high school level for 18 years, 13 of which have been at Dodge City High School teaching biology, honors biology and Advanced Placement biology. She is an ardent proponent of inquiry-based learning and as such co-authored and piloted Biology Rocks! curriculum, which is focused on developing inquiry-based labs to improve critical thinking skills and enhance student engagement. Ralph has served as DCHS' Science Department chair since 2003 and Professional Learning Communities Facilitator since 2005. She also serves as a mentor for new teachers. Under her leadership, DCHS was an early implementer of Kansas' Next Generation Science Standards.

Among her many honors, she was named Kansas Master Teacher by Emporia State University in 2008 and received the Wolf Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Kansas in 2014. She spent two summers working at the University of Kansas in the Research Experience for Teachers program and has presented at several national conferences, including the National Science Teacher Association Conference and the National Association of Biology Teacher Conference.

One of her colleagues at DCHS writes that she is a “spark.” Her passion for science and learning is evident as soon as you step in the door to her room and is incredibly contagious. Shannon uses her boundless energy to ensure her students feel confident and are successful in their learning. Shannon can convince even the most reluctant of students that biology, well....biology really does rock!

DCHS Principal Jacque Feist adds, “Students will work hard for a teacher who works just as hard, if not harder for them and this is what Mrs. Ralph does for all of her students. The respect she has for her students is profound and it comes back to her tenfold.”

When asked why she chose to teach instead of enter the medical profession, Ralph explains “I am crazy in love with this profession. I do not tire of teenagers; I am energized by them. I do not work with co-workers; I work with colleagues who inspire me. I am not drained by teaching a concept until students understand; I am fueled when a light bulb turns on for them.”

Security Benefit, the chief corporate sponsor of the Kansas Teacher of the Year program, presented Ralph with a \$4,000 cash award.

As the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year, Ralph will also receive an educational technology package from SMART Technologies ULC of Canada.

In addition, Ralph will receive the Kansas Teacher of the Year Lifelong Learning Scholarship to attend participating universities free of charge as long as she continues teaching in Kansas, and The Hubbard Foundation Kansas Teacher of the Year Ambassadorship.

All eight members of the 2015 Kansas Teacher of the Year team will receive a cash

award from Security Benefit; a Teaching Excellence Award from SMART Technologies and will also receive a marble apple from The Master Teacher in Manhattan.

The Teacher of the Year program has state and national competitions. The Kansas program is sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education.

On motion of Rep. Vickrey, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

CHARLENE SWANSON, *Journal Clerk*.

SUSAN W. KANNARR, *Chief Clerk*.

