

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 429

Introduced by Mello, 5; Ashford, 20; Davis, 43; Haar, 21; Howard, 9;
Kolowski, 31; McGill, 26; Nordquist, 7; Seiler, 33; Smith,
14; Sullivan, 41.

WHEREAS, the month of January is National Mentoring Month; and

WHEREAS, National Mentoring Month is an opportunity to raise public awareness of the importance of mentoring, recognize the dedicated individuals who serve as mentors, and encourage more citizens to help build a brighter future for Nebraska's youth through mentoring; and

WHEREAS, mentors build character, encourage success, boost confidence and life expectations, and inspire young people to do their best by serving as friends, role models, teachers, and sources of stability and support for a child during a critical time in that child's life; and

WHEREAS, research shows that mentoring has beneficial long-term effects on youth by increasing their academic engagement and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behavior; and

WHEREAS, mentoring is a proven, effective strategy that helps children and young adults by matching them with a caring, responsible adult who can provide guidance and direction and build their self-confidence; and

WHEREAS, residents of Nebraska are making a profound difference in the lives of young people by serving as mentors and are supported by many private and public sector organizations that offer mentoring opportunities for youth; and

WHEREAS, mentoring strengthens Nebraska's economic and social well-being by helping young people fulfill their potential while helping maintain healthy families and promoting more vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Nebraska's children are in need of a caring adult mentor in their lives, and closing the mentoring gap will take more investment, partnerships, and volunteers ready to make a difference in a child's life; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Nebraska recognize that our collective success depends on helping every child succeed in school and reach his or her full potential in life, and that young people need a solid foundation of support that will help them become well-educated, confident, and productive citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature designates January 2014 as National Mentoring Month in Nebraska.

2. That the Legislature recognizes and appreciates the work of mentors who teach, inspire, and guide young people to reach for their dreams.

3. That Nebraskans are encouraged to come together to commemorate and celebrate National Mentoring Month so that in every corner of Nebraska, mentors will push our next generation to shape their ambitions, set a positive course, and achieve their boundless potential.