

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1823

A Resolution honoring Henry Williams and the Uppercut Boxing Club.

WHEREAS, Henry Williams is the winner of the 2011 Sargent Shriver Annual Achievement Award, one of two prestigious recognitions presented annually by the national Community Action Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Williams was nominated for the award by Becky Gray and Steve Lohr, director of the Southeast Kansas Community Action program (SEK-CAP). Lohr said Williams was selected from among 1,100 community action programs across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Williams began working with SEK-CAP in 2000, when he earned a Personal Responsibility and Achievement Award. His desire to give back to his community led to the establishment of the Uppercut Boxing Club, the only stand-alone youth development organization in Independence, Kansas, focusing on enabling youth in a positive manner and preventing delinquency; and

WHEREAS, Working out of his home in the beginning, Williams helped young people train for amateur boxing four nights a week and mowed lawns to obtain the funds necessary to purchase basic boxing equipment. Through persistent contact, he gained the support of churches, schools and local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, The Uppercut Boxing Club has developed a positive reputation throughout the Independence community. The Uppercut Boxing Club obtained a grant from the Kansas Health Foundation and many community partners have participated in fundraising efforts. Additionally, individual and community supporters serve as board members and volunteers in the program; and

WHEREAS, Through Williams' interactions with SEK-CAP, dedication and hard work, Williams and the Uppercut Boxing Club have improved their own community, making Independence a better place to live: Now, therefore,

***Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we honor and recognize Henry Williams for his accomplishments and the Uppercut Boxing Club for its service to the Independence, Kansas community; and**

***Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send three enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator King.**

Senate Resolution No. 1823 was sponsored by Senator Jeff King.

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.