By Senator Abrams

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending the 2012 Kansas Board Certified Teachers.

WHEREAS, Twelve of Kansas' finest educators have satisfied the highest professional qualifications of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards to be designated as National Board Certified Teachers. They will be recognized as such at a program on February 21, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The 2012 Kansas National Board Certified Teachers are: Rachel Aponso, Horace Mann Dual Language Magnet School, Wichita USD 259; Abbie Carlson, Seaman High School, Seaman USD 345; Lisa Ciminieri, Harmony Elementary School, Blue Valley USD 229; Ashley DeForest, Heartland Elementary School, Blue Valley USD 229; Heather Fleming, Junction City Middle School, Geary County USD 475; Catherine Healy, Sunset Ridge Elementary School, Blue Valley USD 229; Tamara Hedenskog, Stony Point North Elementary School, Kansas City USD 500; Theresa Hime, Pauline South Intermediate School, Auburn-Washburn USD 437; Brandi Leggett, Prairie Ridge Elementary School, De Soto USD 232; Erin Pearson, Blue Valley Northwest High School, Blue Valley USD 229; Wendy Ping, Prairie Ridge Elementary School, De Soto USD 232; Leigh Stewart, Independence High School, Independence USD 446; and

WHEREAS, National Board Certification, a voluntary process established by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, is a symbol of professional teaching excellence. It is achieved through a performance-based assessment process that measures a teacher's practice against high and rigorous advanced standards to demonstrate accomplished practice. Through a series of assessments, teachers demonstrate their subject matter knowledge, provide evidence that they know how to teach their subjects to students most effectively and demonstrate their ability to manage and measure student learning; and

WHEREAS, The National Board of Professional Teaching Standards is an independent,

nonprofit, nonpartisan and nongovernmental organization. Its mission is to advance the quality of teaching and learning by: Maintaining high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do; providing a national voluntary system certifying teachers who meet these standards; and advocating related education reforms to integrate National Board Certification in American education and to capitalize on the expertise of National Board Certified Teachers: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend each of these outstanding educators who have attained the status of National Board Certified Teachers; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate provide 12 enrolled copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education for forwarding to each of the teachers so honored plus a copy to the Commissioner of Education.