

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1724

A Resolution congratulating and commending Garden City Community College for being named College of the Year for 2014 by the Rural Community College Alliance.

WHEREAS, Garden City Community College, Garden City, Kansas, has been honored as College of the Year for 2014 by the Rural Community College Alliance. Rural Community College Alliance serves as the voice and the national organization for the nation's 600 rural community and technical colleges. At the recognition ceremony for Garden City Community College, which was held on February 11, 2015, in the U.S. Department of Agriculture building in Washington D.C., U.S. Senator Pat Roberts and U.S. Representative Tim Huelskamp presented the award to Dr. Herbert Swender, President of Garden City Community College; and

WHEREAS, Garden City Community College was selected as the rural college of the year due to its excellence in economic and workforce development, student achievement, financial management, entrepreneurship, student services and impact to the community. In addition, the award was given in honor of Garden City Community College's contribution toward the Pell Grant studies for Kansas and rural America. This is the first study conducted that measured the impact of Pell Grants in rural America; and

WHEREAS, Garden City Community College was established in 1919 and is the longest-serving community college in Kansas. It experienced the largest enrollment increase in Kansas for community colleges in 2014 with a 7% increase; and

WHEREAS, Garden City Community College has earned many accolades over the past three years. It was named to Aspen Institute's top 10% of community colleges in America for 2015, ranked among the top 24 community colleges in the nation by CNN Money Magazine, named "Military Friendly" in 2014 by Military Advanced Education for the third year in a row and was ranked 13th by affordablecolleges.com in its list of the 50 most affordable community colleges in America: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Garden City Community College for being named College of the Year for 2014 by the Rural Community College Alliance. Garden City Community College serves as an example and a model to rural colleges across the United States for its excellence in all areas of operation; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Powell.

Senate Resolution No. 1724 was sponsored by Senator Larry R. Powell.

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.