

House Resolution No. 75

Whereas, in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to educational ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives"; and

Whereas, America's Catholic schools are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence, but provide students more than a superior scholastic education while ensuring a broad, values-added education that emphasizes the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in America's young people; and

Whereas, there are currently 2,647,301 students enrolled in 8,144 Catholic schools across the country, of which 6,920 are elementary or middle schools and 1,226 are high schools; and

Whereas, the Catholic school student enrollment in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Jefferson City for the 2001-2002 academic year is 6,482; and

Whereas, students who attend Catholic schools are more likely to excel in their studies due to the small classroom size and the pupil-teacher ratio of 18 to 1 in elementary schools and 13 to 1 in high schools; and

Whereas, Catholic schools produce students who are strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development; and

Whereas, parents choose Catholic schools because of the superior academic achievement of Catholic school students, the secure and disciplined learning environments, and for a complete education which includes growth in religious awareness and an appreciation of morals and values:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations to all Catholic school students, teachers, faculty, and staff as they proudly celebrate Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Catholic Conference; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation during Catholic Schools Week.

Offered by _____
Representative Carl M. Vogel
District No. 114

Offered by _____
Representative W. W. (Bill) Gratz
District No. 113

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 75, adopted January 21, 2002.

Jim Kreider, Speaker

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