

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State school districts that admirably help students obtain the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to become lifelong learners, involved citizens, and future societal leaders; and

Whereas, the Saint Louis City School District sponsors a Million Minutes by March reading initiative in which students are encouraged to read outside of class for twenty minutes each day; and

Whereas, with a goal of one million cumulative minutes spent reading from January through March 2008, the Million Minutes by March program logged 3,971,898 minutes on March 12, 2008--nearly four times the amount originally targeted; and

Whereas, from April 7 through April 11, 2008, the Saint Louis City School District will hold a series of local celebrations in light of the highly successful effort to get students to read on a regular basis outside of the classroom; and

Whereas, the Million Minutes by March reading program included every student in the Saint Louis City School District from pre-kindergarten students through seniors in high school; and

Whereas, the Million Minutes by March initiative also depended upon the participation of parents, grandparents, and other community members who either read to children or listened to children read as a way to encourage strong, lifelong reading habits and to view reading as a rewarding leisure activity; and

Whereas, the Million Minutes by March program included such special days as January 4 and January 11, 2008, when elected officials were scheduled to read at schools; February 14, 2008, which was known as "parent/grandparent reading day"; and February 29, 2008, which welcomed members of the clergy for a "faith-based reading day"; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives should pause in its diverse legislative actions in order to recognize the Saint Louis City School District at momentous times in its history:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the resounding success of the Million Minutes by March reading initiative sponsored by Saint Louis public schools and to convey to all of those involved, especially administrators, faculty, students, and parents, this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued personal and academic success in life for many more years to come; 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 in honor of the Saint Louis City School District.

Offered by _____
 Representative Jeanette Mott Oxford
 District No. 59

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted _____, 2008.

 Rod Jetton, Speaker