

## House Resolution No. 2843

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State youths who admirably demonstrate their true potential as lifelong learners, involved citizens, and future societal leaders through the excellence of their achievements as civic-minded volunteers; and

**Whereas**, Carson Oetting of Higginsville, Missouri, is the cofounder of the Hugs from Ma project that involves collecting teddy bears and other stuffed animals for use by SWAT teams from across the state when their law enforcement and public safety activities intersect with the very human side of their work due to the presence of children in crisis situations; and

**Whereas**, Carson Oetting and a friend used handwritten signs, collection boxes, and email chains to disseminate information about their proposal to collect soft, cuddly toys that SWAT team members could give to young children when they were encountered during the process of police work; and

**Whereas**, in less than three months Hugs from Ma had received more than 1,700 stuffed animals from churches, businesses, and individuals from as far away as Australia and Mexico; and

**Whereas**, as a result of the visionary efforts of Carson Oetting, the Missouri State Water Patrol SWAT team and others from all over the state received individual toys tagged with a message of support and comfort for its recipient child; and

**Whereas**, each bag of bears distributed to SWAT vehicles is inscribed with a message that reads "These animals are given to you with great appreciation for the work that you do to improve our communities and the lives of children like us. We do this in honor of someone that was dear to our hearts and we pray that the children whose lives they touch receive the comfort we received by being loved by her!"; and

**Whereas**, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives should pause in its constitutionally mandated actions in order to recognize such outstanding young Missouri citizens as Carson Oetting:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the accomplishments garnered thus far in the young life of Carson Oetting, the eight-year-old son of a Water Patrolman, and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of his cofounding the Hugs from Ma project; 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 to Carson Oetting of Higginsville, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Mike McGhee  
District No. 122

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. 2843, adopted May 8, 2008.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker