

RESOLUTION NO. 7122

A RESOLUTION introduced by Mayor Joan Wagnon, to make the City of Topeka known as a City of Character.

WHEREAS, the people of our city recognize the importance of honorable character qualities based upon the moral standards held by our Founding Fathers on which they established our nation and legal system; and

WHEREAS, we desire to build upon our heritage by making our city a place where families are strong, homes and streets are safe, education is effective, business is productive, neighbors care about one another, and citizens are free to make wise choices for their lives and families; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that individuals are responsible for their actions and that daily decisions should be based upon objective moral standards which are the basis of universally-recognized character qualities, including gratefulness, honesty, truthfulness, diligence, generosity, responsibility, compassion, and loyalty; and

WHEREAS, lack of commitment and irresponsibility have resulted in an increasing number of family problems causing personal, social, and financial consequences to individual family members and to this city as a whole; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for more positive role models among our young people to help prevent juvenile rebellion and delinquency and foster a community culture where good character is praised and encouraged; and

WHEREAS, if people fail to demonstrate positive character qualities and make wrong moral choices, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens are endangered, resulting in a financial burden upon the taxpayers for the costs of law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, many current societal problems will be alleviated when the citizens of this city live by positive and constructive character qualities which distinguish between

28 right and wrong; and

29 WHEREAS, teaching positive character qualities to juvenile delinquents has been
30 shown to produce a change in behavior, reducing recidivism rates; and

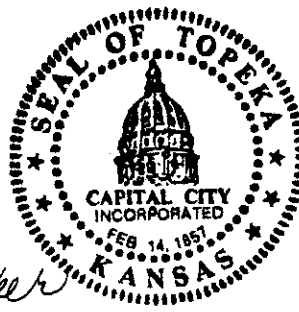
31 WHEREAS, our schools should be a safe atmosphere where character is
32 exemplified, taught, and rewarded, and where learning is encouraged; and

33 WHEREAS, encouraging employees by recognizing positive character qualities
34 has resulted in an increase in workplace morale, employee safety, and corporate profits;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, the emphasis of positive character qualities in every sector of society
37 can only occur as individuals commit themselves to exemplifying character in their
38 personal lives and inspiring others to do the same.

39 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Topeka that it
40 pledges its commitment to character and to doing all in its power to become known as a
41 City of Character by encouraging character in schools, businesses, homes, churches, city
42 government, media, and community groups, and urges the leaders of each of these
43 entities to do likewise.

44 ADOPTED and APPROVED by City Council JAN 09 2001.



CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

Joan Wagnon
Joan Wagnon, Mayor

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50 ATTEST:

51 *Iris E. Walker*
52 _____
53 Iris E. Walker, City Clerk
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56 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
57 DATE 1/9/01 BY *[Signature]*
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