

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1810

A RESOLUTION congratulating and commending Fort Hays State University for being named by *U.S. News & World Report* to the top tier of online education universities.

WHEREAS, Fort Hays State University emerges as the number two undergraduate online education program in the nation when *U.S. News & World Report* criteria are compared cumulatively; and

WHEREAS, Out of the many hundreds of universities in the nation that offer online education, Fort Hays State was one of only 40 that were given honor roll status, the highest distinction in the rankings; and

WHEREAS, *U.S. News & World Report* evaluated online bachelor's programs according to three criteria: (1) Teaching practices and student engagement; (2) student services and technology; and (3) faculty credentials and training. Graduate programs were evaluated by the same three criteria plus a fourth criterion, admissions selectivity; and

WHEREAS, Fort Hays State ranked sixth in the nation in the category of teaching practices and student engagement, ahead of universities such as the University of South Carolina, the University of Cincinnati and the University of Florida. In the category of student services and technology, Fort Hays State ranked 10th in the nation, ahead of Western Kentucky University, Penn State University and the University of Florida. In the category of faculty credentials and training, Fort Hays State ranked 35th in the nation, ahead of Arizona State University, the University of Denver and the University of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Three of Fort Hays State's graduate online programs also received rankings of distinction and finished ranked ahead of several large and nationally recognized universities; and

WHEREAS, The graduate business program, or master of business administration, ranked fifth in the nation in the student services and technology category, ahead of George Washington University, Indiana University and Arizona State University. The masters in nursing program ranked sixth in the nation, ahead of Loyola University Chicago, St. Louis University and Duke University. The masters in education program ranked 14th in the nation, ahead of the University of Texas, Florida State University and Indiana University; and

WHEREAS, Not only does Fort Hays State's online education program rank highly in quality, but also in affordability. GetEducated.com recently ranked the master of liberal studies with a concentration in justice studies and the bachelor of science in information technology and telecommunications/computer networking as number one in the nation for affordability. Four other Fort Hays State online programs were ranked second most affordable and a fifth program was ranked third most affordable; and

WHEREAS, Such outstanding achievements could not have been accomplished without the hard work and forward thinking of the faculty, staff and administrators of Fort Hays State University: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we congratulate and commend Fort Hays State University for its distinguished online education program and we wish them continued success in their climb to the top of the rankings; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send eight enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Allen Schmidt.

Senate Resolution No. 1810 was sponsored by Senators A. Schmidt, Abrams, Apple, Bruce, Brungardt, Emler, Faust-Goudeau, Francisco, Haley, Hensley, Holland, Huntington, Kelly, Kelsey, King, Kultala, Longbine, Love, Lynn, Marshall, Masterson, McGinn, Merrick, Morris, Ostmeier, Owens, Petersen, Pilcher-Cook, Reitz, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger and Vratil.

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.