

## ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 147**

Introduced by McGill, 26.

WHEREAS, youth engagement strengthens our rural and urban communities through increased awareness of civic duties and community issues; and

WHEREAS, young people in the United States are volunteering more than any generation in history; and

WHEREAS, because our youth represent the future of our communities and civic society, their idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment should be fostered to prepare them to bring leadership to the challenges found in their communities; and

WHEREAS, there is a conclusive correlation between youth service and lifelong civic engagement, volunteerism, and philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, through community service, young people build character and learn valuable skills, including time management, teamwork, and leadership, all of which is sought by employers and their communities; and

WHEREAS, service learning, an innovative teaching method combining service to the community with curriculum-based learning, is a proven strategy to increase academic achievement and strengthen civic engagement and civic responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education recently approved new curriculum standards requiring community service as a part of the statewide social studies standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes the critical importance that service learning and civic engagement plays in creating informed and engaged citizens in our democracy.

2. That the Legislature supports programs and initiatives to engage our youth through service learning and volunteerism in our community.