

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 176

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28.

WHEREAS, for over 140 years, the YMCA has had a presence in Nebraska as a volunteer-led charitable organization. The 15 YMCAs in the state have served to strengthen our communities by addressing local needs and providing opportunities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility; and

WHEREAS, over 260,000 Nebraskans of all ages, races, faiths, abilities, and economic backgrounds, in over 300 communities statewide, benefit directly each year from the YMCA's extensive programs designed to nurture the potential of children and improve the health and well-being of children, families, and seniors; and

WHEREAS, the YMCA is the youth development leader in Nebraska, actively engaging over 138,000 youths annually in afterschool enrichment and early learning childcare programs, outdoor education at summer day camps and residence camps, youth sports with a focus on character development, swim lessons and water safety, teen leadership, and the YMCA Youth in Government Program; and

WHEREAS, the YMCAs believe in good health for all Nebraskans, and partner and collaborate with community organizations to leverage donated resources and nonprofit expertise to improve access to health and well-being through chronic disease prevention programs such as the YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program endorsed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Livestrong Foundation cancer survivor program, the EnhanceFitness program for seniors with arthritis, and others; and

WHEREAS, the YMCAs in Nebraska collectively provide over \$4 million in direct financial assistance to individuals and families so that everyone has

access to YMCA programs and services and no one is turned away for inability to pay; and

WHEREAS, 15,300 volunteers statewide commit nearly 200,000 hours annually of their time and expertise, the financial equivalent of over \$4 million annually, making the YMCA one of the largest volunteer-led organizations in the state.

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

1. That the Legislature recognizes the YMCAs of Nebraska for their contributions to the citizens of Nebraska.
2. That the Legislature declares April 14, 2015, as YMCA Day in Nebraska.