

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

SENATE  
RESOLUTION 43

By: Nichols

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution congratulating Rachel Clapper upon being selected to receive The Prudential Spirit of Community Award; wishing her well in being considered for selection as one of the top ten honorees in America; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Rachel Clapper, of Norman, Oklahoma, created a suicide awareness and prevention project to educate troubled teens about their choices and teach others the warning signs of a suicidal youth. Hearing of the need for suicide awareness at a youth leadership forum and learning that suicide is the second-leading cause of death in her age group, Rachel Clapper took action. She spent months meeting with Casady School's headmaster, psychologist, and vicar in order to receive permission to launch her project. She then recruited and trained student and faculty volunteers to discuss suicide in every classroom in her school. She raised awareness and \$1,200 through a community fund-raising walk. Part of the money was used to give every student in her school a "Lifeline" card, listing crisis hotline numbers and the warning signs of suicide, and giving the individual an easy way to seek help; and

WHEREAS, Rachel Clapper was named as Oklahoma's top high school youth volunteer for 2004 in the ninth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. As our state's honoree, Rachel will receive an engraved silver medallion and a trip to Washington, D.C., for a series of national recognition events. The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals,

constitute America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteerism. The awards are designed to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others and to encourage young Americans of all backgrounds to contribute to their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates Rachel Clapper upon being selected as Oklahoma's top high school youth volunteer for 2004 and honors her as a 2004 national finalist in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes Rachel Clapper's outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit and wishes her well in her trip to Washington, D.C., to be considered for selection as one of the top ten National Honorees.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Rachel Clapper of Norman, Oklahoma, and Casady School in Oklahoma City.

49-2-3012

THC

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