

## ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

## SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 623**

Introduced by Crawford, 45; Coash, 27; Nelson, 6.

WHEREAS, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Nebraska are an integral part of our communities. Not only do they provide a safe space for our youth, but they also help our young people develop and build the skills they need to be successful; and

WHEREAS, since 1947 the Youth of the Year program has encouraged young members of the Boys and Girls Club to reach their full potential through academic success, healthy lifestyles, and by contributing to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Youth of the Year program richly demonstrates the positive impact that the Boys and Girls Clubs exert on young people and on the future of our nation. Boys and Girls Clubs help youth enter the world with educational, social, emotional, and cultural competencies, positive self-identity, a sense of community and civic involvement, a moral compass, and other attributes and capabilities our young people need to become responsible, successful, patriotic adults and leaders. Youth of the Year winners at the local, state, regional, and national levels exemplify the hard work, determination, and hope of the Boys and Girls Clubs; and

WHEREAS, the rich history of the Youth of the Year program emanates from the efforts of generations of dedicated staff and volunteers who have mentored club youth and helped them to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, being named a Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys and Girls Club member can receive. This award signifies that the member has contributed in multiple ways to his or her family, school, community, and Boys and Girls Club. The award also testifies to the fact that the recipient has had to overcome personal challenges and obstacles, even as he or she has devoted time and effort into improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Jabaree Culliver has been honored as the 2014 Nebraska Youth of the Year out of over 10,000 club members in the State of Nebraska. Jabaree is a student in graphic design at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and has been a member of the Westside Boys and Girls Club, an affiliate of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands, for ten years. The Westside Boys and Girls Club has been a great support system for Jabaree and became a second family to him; and

WHEREAS, Lorian Harkey, a senior at Bellevue West High School, has been honored as the 2014 Nebraska Military Youth of the Year. Lorian is a member of the Offutt Air Force Base Boys and Girls Club and serves as the captain of the Novice Forensics Team, and is also active in Future Business Leaders of America and the National Honor Society. Lorian is presently the top-ranked student in her class; and

WHEREAS, Jason Towery, a junior at Lincoln High School, has been honored as the 2014 Lincoln-Lancaster County Youth of the Year. Jason has been a club member for over six years and is active in many varied extracurricular activities, including varsity basketball where he serves in a leadership capacity as team captain; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that our outstanding young people and the organizations that support them are recognized for enriching the quality of life in Nebraska.

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

1. That the Legislature congratulates Jabaree Culliver for being named the 2014 Nebraska Youth of the Year, Lorian Harkey for being named the 2014 Nebraska Military Youth of the Year, and Jason Towery for being named the 2014 Lincoln-Lancaster County Youth of the Year.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to Jabaree Culliver, Lorian Harkey, and Jason Towery.