

RESOLUTION 17.18.07

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING OKLAHOMA TEACHERS

BY: Senator Dansby

WHEREAS Educators in the State of Oklahoma play a crucial role as developers of human potential in our society by preparing children for the multiple roles and responsibilities of tomorrow; and,

WHEREAS Despite this vital role, after at least four years of rigorous college material and multiple certification exams, Oklahoma educators only earn a starting salary of \$31,500 while neighboring states offer as much as \$10,000 more; and,

WHEREAS 1 in 4 of all Northeastern State University students are part of the College of Education and will graduate to become an educator, yet statistically will likely leave to neighboring states in order to earn a fair living wage; and,

WHEREAS Governor Mary Fallin has vowed support for teacher pay raise in multiple past State of the State addresses, yet salaries have remained stagnant for the past decade; and,

WHEREAS By not taking action to raise salaries and increase education funding, despite years of empty promises from the Governor and State Legislature, the State of Oklahoma has chosen not to prioritize education; and,

WHEREAS The Oklahoma Education Association (OEA) has announced plans for a statewide teacher walk-out starting on April 2nd, 2018 until the Governor acts on her promise and signs legislation to provide for a teacher pay raise and increase education funding.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Northeastern Student Government Association supports and affirms the OEA and hereby stands behind educators, both current and future.

SECTION 2. The Northeastern Student Government Association requests the State Government take immediate action in whatever means necessary to raise teacher's salary and increase education funding.

SECTION 3. A copy of this resolution be sent to

- Speaker Charles McCall, Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representative,
- Senator Mike Schultz, President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate,
- Governor Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma,
- Alicia Priest, President of the Oklahoma Education Association,