IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

A RESOLUTION congratulating Rachel Wheelock on her recent designation as a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

RESOLUTION #17834, March 5, 2012

INTRODUCED BY Bob Spence, County Legislator

WHEREAS, Rachel Wheelock, a Lee's Summit North High School senior, has been named a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship program; and,

WHEREAS, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), founded in 1955, is a privately-funded, not-for-profit corporation that operates without government assistance, and provides National Merit Scholarship awards worth approximately \$33 million; and,

WHEREAS, National Merit Scholarships are underwritten by nearly 500 independent sponsor organizations and institutions as well as with the corporation's own funds; and,

WHEREAS, National Merit Scholars are selected based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments, which includes the finalist's academic record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, test scores, a student's activities and leadership, and a written recommendation from a high school official; and,

WHEREAS, the NMSC's goals are to identify and honor academically talented U.S. high

school students, to stimulate increased support for their education, and to provide efficient and effective scholarship program management for organizations that wish to sponsor college undergraduate scholarships; and,

WHEREAS, since its founding, NMSC has recognized 2.9 million students and provided over 360,000 scholarships worth more than \$1.4 billion; and,

WHEREAS, the honors awarded by NMSC to exceptionally able students are viewed as definitive marks of excellence; and,

WHEREAS, recipients of Merit Scholarship awards have increased the nation's respect for intellectual accomplishments and have contributed significantly to its talent pool of future leaders; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature congratulates Rachel Wheelock on her designation as a National Merit Scholarship finalist and wishes her well in all future endeavors.