

2004 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 76

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 14, 2004

Commending Barbara Gernat.

Patrons—O'Brien; Delegate: Hugo

WHEREAS, Barbara Gernat, the principal of Mountain View School in Fairfax County, was named Fairfax County Public Schools' Principal of the Year and a recipient of the *Washington Post* Distinguished Educational Leadership Award; and

WHEREAS, the Distinguished Educational Leadership Awards honor principals who manage effectively; demonstrate and encourage creativity and innovation; foster cooperation between the school and the community; maintain a dialogue with students, parents, faculty, and staff; encourage team spirit; demonstrate leadership; and exemplify commitment; and

WHEREAS, principals are chosen for the annual awards based on nominations from parents, teachers, colleagues, and current and former students; and

WHEREAS, a veteran of 30 years with the Fairfax County Public Schools, Barbara Gernat has served as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, assistant hearing officer, and principal; and

WHEREAS, known for her steady leadership, wisdom, and sense of humor, Barbara Gernat has led Mountain View School, an alternative high school, to full accreditation; and

WHEREAS, Mountain View School serves students who struggle with English as a second or third language, are pregnant or are already parents, are older students returning to school to earn a diploma, or have had trouble at other schools; and

WHEREAS, leading a school with such a unique student body presents its own set of challenges, and Barbara Gernat, with her energy, humor, flexibility, and affection for her students, has met the challenges; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Barbara Gernat on winning the prestigious *Washington Post* Distinguished Educational Leadership Award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Barbara Gernat as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her exceptional commitment to the education of the young people of Fairfax County.

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