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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 251

Offered January 31, 2006

Commending Deborah S. Goforth.

Patrons—Cole, Orrock and Peace; Senators: Houck and McDougle

WHEREAS, Deborah S. Goforth of Spotsylvania, a library media specialist at Courtland Elementary School and an educator for 28 years, is Virginia's Teacher of the Year 2006; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Goforth was chosen Region III Teacher of the Year in September 2005; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's Teacher of the Year is chosen from eight regional teacher finalists and Deborah Goforth was chosen in Richmond on October 21, 2005, in a ceremony sponsored by the Board of Education and the Department of Education in cooperation with corporate sponsors; and

WHEREAS, the Teacher of the Year program recognizes and honors teachers who represent the best in teaching across the nation and the acclaimed award winners serve as ambassadors promoting the teaching profession and quality education for all students; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Goforth is the fifth teacher from Fredericksburg area schools to receive the distinguished Teacher of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Goforth will represent the Commonwealth in the annual National Teacher of the Year selection process, which is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, Scholastic Inc., and the ING Foundation and announced at a White House ceremony in April; only two Virginia teachers have been named National Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, a gifted storyteller, Deborah Goforth uses her many talents and great enthusiasm to instill the joy of learning in her students; and

WHEREAS, before coming to Virginia, Deborah Goforth worked in schools in Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina, and before becoming a librarian 16 years ago, she taught elementary and middle school students in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Goforth is a member of numerous education associations, including the Virginia Educational Media Association and is an active staff development trainer; and

WHEREAS, a talented and dedicated educator, Deborah Goforth epitomizes the vital role school librarians play in the education of children; she works with teachers to create learning library centers that enhance and coordinate with classroom projects and provides valuable resources to help students pass the Standards of Learning exams; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Deborah S. Goforth on her well-deserved recognition as Virginia's Teacher of the Year 2006; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Deborah S. Goforth as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her commitment to the young people of Spotsylvania County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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