

2008 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 150

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 8, 2008

Commending Donald J. Ford.

Patrons—Lohr, Landes and Saxman; Senators: Hanger and Obenshain

WHEREAS, Donald J. Ford, Superintendent of Harrisonburg City Public Schools and the Virginia Association of School Superintendents (VASS) president-elect, was honored as Virginia's Superintendent of the Year at the VASS Annual Conference, which was held in May 2007 in Roanoke; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ford has been an advocate at the state and national level for modifying the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* so that it better serves the public school students of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, among his many accomplishments as superintendent of Harrisonburg City Public Schools, Dr. Ford has provided leadership that has led to more effective academic programs; implemented a special course for teachers and administrators that provides innovative instructional methods to address the needs of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students; developed classes for LEP students that pair classroom teachers with English as a Second Language teachers and reading teachers; and supported an intake center to help new LEP students and their families become active members of their community; and

WHEREAS, before becoming superintendent of the Harrisonburg City Public Schools in 1997, Dr. Ford served as the superintendent for the Highland County Public Schools, an assistant superintendent and assistant principal in Craig County, and the principal of private schools in North Carolina and Illinois; and

WHEREAS, as Virginia's Superintendent of the Year, Dr. Ford will be eligible for the prestigious honor of National Superintendent of the Year, which will be presented in Tampa, Florida, in February 2008 at the American Association of School Administrators Annual Convention; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding candidate with a wealth of experience and expertise, Dr. Ford was selected as the state winner from among eight distinguished regional Superintendent of the Year winners chosen from the entire field of 133 public school superintendents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ford is a passionate educator and experienced administrator who is committed to providing quality education to all of the students of the Harrisonburg City Schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Donald J. Ford on being honored by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents as Virginia's School Superintendent of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Donald J. Ford as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for his notable accomplishments and his dedication to the young people of Harrisonburg and the Commonwealth.

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