

## 2009 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 840

Offered February 2, 2009

*Commending Nicole Winter.*

Patrons—Nixon, Cox, Dance, Hall, Ingram, Loupassi, McQuinn and Ware, R.L.; Senators: Martin and Watkins

WHEREAS, Nicole Winter, an outstanding history teacher and Beta Club sponsor at Cosby High School of Chesterfield County Public Schools has been honored as Virginia's Region 1 Teacher of the Year for 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Teacher of the Year program recognizes and honors teachers who represent the best in teaching and the acclaimed award winners serve as ambassadors promoting the teaching profession and quality education for all students; and Virginia's Teacher of the Year, awarded by the Virginia Department of Education, is chosen from eight regional teacher finalists; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Winter graduated with a bachelor's degree in history from The College of William and Mary and earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and inspirational educator, Nicole Winter has taught at Cosby High School since the school opened in September 2006; and

WHEREAS, before joining Cosby High School, Nicole Winter taught at Manchester High School from 1992 to 2006, and she has taught in the Chesterfield County Public Schools for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Winter heads Cosby High School's professional learning community focused on Creating Independence Through Student-Owned Strategies known as CRISS, which is a professional development program designed to help students learn more effectively; and

WHEREAS, a gifted history teacher and role model for her students, Nicole Winter uses her many talents and great enthusiasm to instill the joy of learning in her students; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Winter uniquely utilizes members of the community as classroom resources, inviting interesting citizens to visit her history classes and share their experiences to help her students "realize how rich in human resources their community is and how supportive the community is of our schools"; and

WHEREAS, since 2003, Nicole Winter has taught online classes through the Coordinated Studies Department of Chesterfield County Public Schools, and she serves as adjunct faculty for the Virginia Commonwealth University's Clinical Faculty Program; and

WHEREAS, Nicole Winter was the recipient of an R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence in 2005, and she used the grant to explore the immigrant experience by visiting Denmark, Iceland, and Ellis Island in New York City; and

WHEREAS, a talented and dedicated educator, Nicole Winter epitomizes the vital role innovative teachers play in the education of Virginia's children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Nicole Winter on her well-deserved recognition as Virginia's Region 1 Teacher of the Year for 2009; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Nicole Winter as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her commitment to the young people of Chesterfield County Public Schools and the Commonwealth.

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