## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 985**

Offered February 20, 2009

Commending Walter Alexander Sheffield.

Patron—Howell, W.J.

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WHEREAS, on February 12, 2009, Walter Alexander Sheffield was honored as the Teacher of the Year for 2009 by the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, a third-generation teacher, Walter Alexander "Zander" Sheffield is the 6th grade team leader and social studies coordinator at Stonewall Jackson Middle School of the Roanoke City Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Sons of the American Revolution has recognized outstanding teachers for many years, and the Teacher of the Year award recognizes a single teacher for demonstrating outstanding classroom accomplishments, consistent use of innovative and effective teaching techniques, and developing skills among students leading to good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Zander Sheffield grew up in Fredericksburg, graduated from James Monroe High School, earned a bachelor's degree from Radford University, and is enrolled in the Master of Education Administration program at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, during his career in private and public education, Zander Sheffield has taught American and Virginia history in four Roanoke City schools with high poverty rates, while coaching wrestling, soccer, and baseball; and

WHEREAS, a passionate educator and a role model and mentor to young people, Zander Sheffield uses innovative teaching techniques to motivate and inspire his students to succeed academically and to help them increase their Standards of Learning test scores; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Walter Alexander Sheffield on his well-deserved recognition as Teacher of the Year for 2009 by the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Walter Alexander Sheffield as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for his commitment to the young people of Roanoke and the Commonwealth.