

# 2011 SESSION

ENROLLED

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 820

*Commending LaTonya E. Waller.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 8, 2011

Agreed to by the Senate, February 17, 2011

WHEREAS, LaTonya E. Waller, an outstanding sixth and eighth grade science teacher and chair of the science department at Lucille M. Brown Middle School in the City of Richmond, has been honored as Virginia's 2011 Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, LaTonya Waller, Region 1 Teacher of the Year, was chosen as Virginia's Teacher of the Year from eight regional teacher finalists and was awarded the state's highest teaching honor in Richmond on October 15, 2010, in a ceremony sponsored by the Virginia 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, at a White House ceremony in the spring of 2011, LaTonya Waller will represent the Commonwealth in the annual Council of Chief State School Officers' National Teacher of the Year program, which is sponsored by the ING Foundation; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Richmond Community High School, LaTonya Waller received a bachelor's degree, master's degree, and post-master's certificate in educational leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University; and

WHEREAS, a resourceful teacher who successfully engages her students and instills in them a love of learning, LaTonya Waller began her exemplary career at Broad Rock Elementary School and moved to Lucille M. Brown Middle School five years ago; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her classroom duties, LaTonya Waller also coaches the school's Mind Games team, which fosters intellectual skills, team work, and self esteem through friendly competition; and

WHEREAS, LaTonya Waller encourages her students to further explore their interests through community service and involvement in school extracurricular activities; she sponsors the science, engineering, and forensics clubs; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 LaTonya Waller was honored for her commitment to teaching with a prestigious R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, a talented and dedicated educator, LaTonya Waller epitomizes the vital role that innovative and compassionate 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 LaTonya E. Waller on her well-deserved recognition as Virginia's 2011 Teacher 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 LaTonya E. Waller as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her commitment to the young people of the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth.

ENROLLED

HJ820ER