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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 614

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 7, 2013

Commending Kathryn B. Galford.

Patrons—Cosgrove, Knight, Tata, James, Jones, Spruill and Villanueva

WHEREAS, Kathryn B. Galford, a veteran sixth-grade English teacher at Greenbrier Middle School in Chesapeake, has been honored as Virginia's 2013 Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Kathryn "Kathy" Galford, Region 2 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 12, 2012; and

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

WHEREAS, Kathy Galford earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Old Dominion University and is currently pursuing an endorsement in gifted education at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Galford began her career at Greenbrier Elementary School and spent 14 years at Greenbrier Intermediate School before joining Greenbrier Middle School in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Galford serves as Greenbrier Middle School's after-school study hall coordinator and academic advisor, after-school Standards of Learning remediation tutor, core team leader, and advisor to the Kiwanis Community Service Builders Club; and

WHEREAS, driven by the motto "Make it Relevant," Kathy Galford has devoted her 24-year career in education to making students' studies relevant to real life so that they may become productive citizens in society; and

WHEREAS, a respected educator, Kathy Galford co-wrote the current sixth-grade English Gifted Curriculum and trained teachers on its implementation; had lesson plans and instructional strategies published in two books; presented at seminars; and mentored numerous other teachers; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Galford has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, including the 2009 Horace Mann *Mugs and Kisses* Program Outstanding Employee Recognition Award, 2011 - 2012 Teacher of the Year for Greenbrier Middle School, and the 2012 Teacher of the Year for Chesapeake Public Schools; she was also nominated for the 1999 Disney American Teacher Award; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the community, Kathy Galford also serves as a volunteer dance instructor and performer for a local school of dance and is a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, throughout her 24-year career in education, Kathy Galford has striven to create learning environments in which all of her students can excel while making many contributions to her profession; and

WHEREAS, a talented and dedicated educator, Kathy Galford epitomizes the vital role that innovative and caring teachers play in the education of Virginia's children; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Galford will represent the Commonwealth in the National Teacher of the Year Program at the White House in the spring of 2013; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Kathryn B. Galford on her well-deserved selection as Virginia's 2013 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 Kathryn B. Galford as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and gratitude for her commitment to the young people of Chesapeake and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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