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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 973

Offered February 15, 2017

Commending Jennifer Burgin.

Patrons-Levine, Hope, Lopez and Sullivan; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin, a second-grade teacher at Oakridge Elementary School, was named 2016 Arlington Public Schools Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong learner, Jennifer Burgin graduated with honors from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin has been a teacher at Oakridge Elementary School since 2009 and previously she taught second grade at Horne Elementary School in Houston, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin has been a National Board Certified teacher since 2013, and earning that designation was the biggest accomplishment and challenge of her professional career; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at Oakridge Elementary School, Jennifer Burgin has served as third-grade team leader, authored the third-grade social studies project assessment, served as a new teacher hiring screener, and been a member of the Counseling Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, outside of the classroom, Jennifer Burgin has participated in the George Mason University English Language Arts Cohort, was chosen as a Global Village Summit Select Educator, and participated in the Library of Congress Primary Resources Institute; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin is admired by colleagues, parents, and students because she genuinely cares for and nurtures her students; she has an innate ability to connect with all children in a way that makes them feel safe, loved, and understood; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin has a strong belief that all students can and will succeed and she is extremely committed to helping children develop in all areas: academically, socially, and emotionally; Jennifer Burgin's colleagues appreciate her unique capacity to identify and appreciate the talents of each student; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Burgin's love of education and learning are contagious and her success in the classroom has been made possible by the outstanding support of her fellow teachers and the administrators in Arlington Public Schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Jennifer Burgin, a second-grade teacher at Oakridge Elementary School, on being named Arlington Public Schools Teacher of the Year in 2016; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jennifer Burgin as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her dedication to excellence in educating the children of Arlington Public Schools.