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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 717

Offered January 16, 2019

Commending Rodney A. Robinson.

Patrons—Landes; Senator: Newman

WHEREAS, Rodney A. Robinson, a history teacher at Virgie Binford Education Center in Richmond, won the Virginia Teacher of the Year award on October 16, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson was raised in King William County and earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia State University and a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson was inspired to go into teaching while watching his mother pursue her GED after poverty and segregation initially thwarted her educational and professional aspirations, seeing how she clearly enjoyed the act of learning, even while working and caring for her children; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson has 19 years of experience as an educator in Richmond Public Schools; he worked as a civics and economics teacher at Lucille M. Brown Middle School, a world geography and U.S. history teacher at George Wythe High School, and a government, history, and geography teacher at Armstrong High School; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, Rodney Robinson has taught history to students at the Virgie Binford Education Center, a school within the Richmond Juvenile Detention Center; he uses a whole child approach to education to help the students who are the most vulnerable, while conveying a passion for history; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson views his classroom as a collaborative partnership between him and his students; he provides a civics-centered education that promotes social and emotional growth to reduce recidivism among his students and create socially and civically engaged citizens; and

WHEREAS, Rodney Robinson has earned numerous accolades for his work and has delivered many lectures on pedagogy; he rose to the top of the list of exemplary Richmond teachers, and outshone other regional winners from around the Commonwealth to claim the title of Virginia Teacher of the Year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Rodney A. Robinson, a history teacher at Virgie Binford Education Center, for winning the Virginia Teacher of the Year award; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rodney A. Robinson as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his commitment to serving, teaching, and inspiring the students of Richmond and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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