

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21200722D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 640

Offered February 26, 2021

Commending educators and school support staff in Virginia.

Patrons—Helmer, Adams, D.M., Austin, Avoli, Ayala, Bulova, Carr, Cole, J.G., Cole, M.L., Convirs-Fowler, Coyner, Davis, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Fowler, Gooditis, Guy, Guzman, Hayes, Hope, Hudson, Hurst, Jenkins, Keam, Kory, Krizek, Levine, Marshall, McQuinn, Mugler, Mullin, Mundon King, Murphy, Plum, Price, Rasoul, Reid, Scott, Sickles, Simon, Simonds, Subramanyam, Tran, VanValkenburg, Ware, Watts, Willett and Williams Graves

Unanimous consent to introduce

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, educators and school support staff in Virginia have successfully facilitated distance learning through online instruction and hybrid in-person instruction with safety measures and social distancing for more than 1,250,000 students; and

WHEREAS, Virginia elementary school educators have provided instruction in all content areas, as well as special courses covering art, music, and physical education, while secondary school teachers have continued to provide available courses and extracurricular activities; and

WHEREAS, Virginia educators at all levels have provided students with opportunities to enrich social-emotional learning and receive mental health and wellness support; and

WHEREAS, in addition to maintaining day-to-day operations in unprecedented circumstances, Virginia school administrators have provided faculty and staff members with opportunities for professional development and training on the unique challenges of virtual learning; and

WHEREAS, Virginia substitute teachers have assisted with operations by distributing laptops and meals to students, engaging in training opportunities, and answering calls for service; and

WHEREAS, teacher assistants and other educators have facilitated learning in a variety of ways, including leading breakout rooms, supporting whole group instruction, and conducting other important work to support students and teachers in distance learning; and

WHEREAS, Virginia educators and support staff have established clear communication with parents, families, and the community to provide useful updates throughout the pandemic; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That educators and school support staff in Virginia hereby be commended for their outstanding work to continue to provide learning opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Virginia Secretary of Education Atif Qarni to share with public school superintendents throughout Virginia as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the achievements of teachers and staff members in service to young people in the Commonwealth.

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