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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 792

Offered August 4, 2021

Commending Eboni Harrington.

Patrons—Rasoul, Adams, D.M., Austin, Avoli, Carr, Cole, J.G., Cole, M.L., Convirs-Fowler, Delaney, Guzman, Hayes, Head, Jenkins, Keam, Kory, McNamara, McQuinn, Mundon King, Samirah, Simonds, Subramanyam, Ware and Watts

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington, a seventh grade mathematics teacher at Lucy Addison Middle School in Roanoke, was named the Roanoke City Public Schools Teacher of the Year at the Roanoke Country Club on May 26, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington was selected as Teacher of the Year by a committee of Roanoke City Public Schools (RCPS) employees, retirees, and the 2020 RCPS Teacher of the Year honoree, who recognized her extraordinary commitment to the success and well-being of her students, school, and school district; and

WHEREAS, with her award, Eboni Harrington made history as the first African American female and only the second African American to be named RCPS Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, a former student in RCPS, Eboni Harrington began her education career at a charter school in North Carolina before joining the staff of Lucy Addison Middle School four years ago; and

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington has demonstrated exemplary resilience, confidence, and perseverance in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges, embodying RCPS's vision for public education in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, to enhance her students' virtual learning experience during the COVID-19 pandemic, Eboni Harrington recorded a song and video entitled "Work and Progress" that received national media attention and garnered thousands of views on YouTube; and

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington's efforts as an educator extend to her work as a mathematics tutor with Taylor Tutoring Services in Hollins and as the owner of So Math About It, a tutoring company for grades three through eight; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her recent accolade from RCPS, Eboni Harrington was recently recognized by the Roanoke NAACP Youth Council with its 2020 Impactors of Excellence Award and by *The Roanoker* in its list of "40 Under 40"; and

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington's dedication to the future of her community extends beyond the walls of Lucy Addison Middle School, as she played a prominent role in the Urban Arts Project's development of the "End Racism Now" mural project on Campbell Avenue in Roanoke and serves as a board member of The Humble Hustle Company, an organization devoted to empowering Black youth; and

WHEREAS, Eboni Harrington has contributed greatly to the accomplishments of her students, both in and out of the classroom, by motivating them through mentorship, community engagement, and other educational activities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Eboni Harrington, a mathematics teacher at Lucy Addison Middle School, hereby be commended on the occasion of being named the 2021 Roanoke City Public Schools 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 Eboni Harrington as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her contributions to the Commonwealth.