

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1999 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 548

Commending Linda B. Koutoufas.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 22, 1999

Agreed to by the Senate, January 28, 1999

WHEREAS, Linda B. Koutoufas, a third grade teacher at Woodstock Elementary School in Virginia Beach, was named by the Department of Education as the Commonwealth's 1999 Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, as Virginia's Teacher of the Year, Linda Koutoufas will participate in the National Teacher of the Year program, which is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic, Inc., and is the oldest and most prestigious honors program focusing public attention on excellence in teaching; and

WHEREAS, Linda Koutoufas was chosen Teacher of the Year from among eight regional finalists across Virginia by a selection committee that included state education professionals, business leaders, and the 1998 Virginia and National Teacher of the Year, Phil Bigler; and

WHEREAS, Linda Koutoufas was earlier chosen from among 83 Virginia Beach school teachers of the year as the 1999 Virginia Beach Teacher of the Year because of "her infectious enthusiasm for teaching and for children"; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Mary Washington College, Linda Koutoufas has completed graduate work at Old Dominion University, the College of William and Mary, and the University of Virginia and has been a teacher in Virginia Beach for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Linda Koutoufas has been repeatedly recognized for her teaching skills, winning awards from, among others, the American Association of University Women, the Girl Scouts of America, and *The Virginian-Pilot*; and

WHEREAS, as Virginia's 1999 Teacher of the Year, Linda Koutoufas will serve statewide and nationally as an ambassador for public education, focusing attention on the importance of excellent teaching and serving as a spokesperson and advocate for the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, Linda Koutoufas will also attend the NASA-sponsored Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, in April 1999 and will represent the Commonwealth at a White House Rose Garden ceremony in August 1999; and

WHEREAS, a worthy recipient of Teacher of the Year honors, Linda Koutoufas embodies the ideals of public school teaching in a unique and creative manner and will be an exceptional representative of the Commonwealth in national events; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Linda B. Koutoufas on her selection as Virginia's 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 Linda B. Koutoufas as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for her dedication to the education of Virginia Beach's young people.

ENROLLED

HJ548ER