HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 24

Commending Natalie DiFusco-Funk.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 15, 2016

WHEREAS, Natalie DiFusco-Funk, an outstanding teacher at West Salem Elementary School, was named the 2016 Virginia Teacher of the Year at a reception held at the Governor's Mansion in Richmond on October 19, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Natalie DiFusco-Funk, who currently teaches fifth grade, has been an educator for 12 years; her passion to teach began on her first day of school in the fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, as the Commonwealth's 2016 Virginia Teacher of the Year, Natalie DiFusco-Funk will represent the tens of thousands of dedicated and hard-working classroom teachers throughout Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Natalie DiFusco-Funk has taught fifth grade at West Salem Elementary School for five years; she received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston College, and in 2013 she earned National Board Certification in Literacy; and

WHEREAS, representing Virginia's Region 6, Natalie DiFusco-Funk was selected to be the 2016 Teacher of the Year by a panel consisting of teachers, representatives of professional and educational associations, the business community, and the 2015 Virginia Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Natalie DiFusco-Funk has earned praise from those who work with her, who especially note her dedication, exceptional teaching abilities, and the encouragement she offers to fellow education professionals; and

WHEREAS, as 2016 Virginia Teacher of the Year, Natalie DiFusco-Funk becomes the Commonwealth's nominee for National Teacher of the Year, an honor that is awarded by the National Teacher of the Year Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Natalie DiFusco-Funk, a fifth-grade teacher at West Salem Elementary School, hereby be commended on her selection as the 2016 Virginia 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 Natalie DiFusco-Funk as an expression of the House of Delegates' congratulations and admiration for her success and dedication to educating young children in the Commonwealth and preparing them for the future.