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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 877

Offered February 6, 2017

Commending Carol Bauer.

Patrons—Pogge, Helsel and Mullin; Senators: Mason and Norment

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer, a fourth-grade teacher at Grafton Bethel Elementary School near Yorktown, is a recipient of the 2017 Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer is one of five teachers to receive the 2017 Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence, which is bestowed by the National Education Association (NEA) Foundation at a February 2017 awards gala in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer received the 2016 Virginia Education Association (VEA) Award for Teaching Excellence after she was named Grafton Bethel Elementary School Teacher of the Year in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer has been a teacher in the York County School Division since 1996, and she has taught almost every grade at Grafton Bethel Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Horace Mann Award, which comes with a \$10,000 prize, honors educators who go above and beyond to exemplify teaching excellence and who are dedicated to their students, colleagues, community, and profession; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer was recognized for her diligence, exemplary instruction, professional advocacy, leadership, and for her "Genius Hour" classroom innovation, which is a dedicated time for students to research and present topics that are of interest to them; and

WHEREAS, "Genius Hour" allows students to develop and use research, collaboration, and presentation skills, and also opens the door to interesting and educational discussions about topics such as the Underground Railroad, fashion, biographies, and space exploration; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer is also sponsor for the Battle of the Books reading incentive program, coach of the Great Grizzlies LEGO Team, and a mentor to fellow teachers going through the National Board Certification process; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer has served as president of the York Education Association and on the VEA Board of Directors; she currently represents Virginia on the NEA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Carol Bauer's exemplary efforts in the classroom would not be possible without the support of her fellow teachers and terrific school administrators; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Carol Bauer, a fourth-grade teacher at Grafton Bethel Elementary School near Yorktown, on being selected for the 2017 Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Carol Bauer as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her national achievement and unwavering dedication to the students of the Commonwealth.