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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 105

Offered January 25, 2023

Commending Fabiana Parker.

Patrons—Reeves, Hanger, Spruill and Vogel

WHEREAS, Fabiana Parker, a sixth through 12th grade English for speakers of other languages educator at Thornburg Middle School and Spotsylvania High School in Spotsylvania County, was named the 2023 Virginia Teacher of the Year at a ceremony held in the Patrick Henry Building on Capitol Square in Richmond on September 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Fabiana Parker grew up as an English-language learner who experienced firsthand the accompanying challenges and triumphs alike; she traces the beginning of her education career to her childhood experience of teaching her grandmother to read and has been an educator professionally since 2003; and

WHEREAS, Fabiana Parker's higher education pursuits have spanned vast geographical regions; she earned a bachelor's degree in modern foreign language and education at King's College London in 2001 and a master's degree in education, curriculum, and instruction at Boise State University in 2003; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her degree programs, Fabiana Parker has also completed coursework to hone her skills as an educator at the University of Virginia, the University of Phoenix, the University of Granada, the University of Oxford, and the University of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS, Fabiana Parker's diverse community and civic involvement is a natural extension of her mission as a seasoned and globally-minded educator; and

WHEREAS, Fabiana Parker was recognized by the Honorable Gerald E. Connolly in the Congressional Record of the United States Congress in 2012 for having proudly served the adult literacy needs of the Northern Virginia community as a volunteer with the nonprofit BEACON for Adult Literacy; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Fabiana Parker received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Virginia Department of Health for her service as a translator assisting the department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, seeing her students achieve their educational goals and become productive members of society is the driving force behind Fabiana Parker's commitment to education; and

WHEREAS, using her personal and professional experiences to promote cultural diversity while building bridges of trust, respect, and understanding across cultures will always be counted among Fabiana Parker's greatest accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Fabiana Parker, an English for speakers of other languages educator with Spotsylvania County Public Schools, hereby be commended for being named the 2023 Virginia Teacher of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Fabiana Parker as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for her contributions to the Commonwealth and best wishes in her future endeavors.