

1 HJR211
2 219398-2
3 By Representative Collins
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 29-MAR-22

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 COMMENDING CATHY W. GASSENHEIMER FOR PROFESSIONAL
4 ACHIEVEMENTS.

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6 WHEREAS, highest commendation is herein extended to
7 Cathy W. Gassenheimer in recognition of her far-reaching
8 contributions and outstanding leadership in the A-Plus
9 Education Partnership, a nonprofit organization in Montgomery,
10 Alabama, that works to create great schools and to ensure
11 every Alabama student has the opportunity to graduate prepared
12 for college, career, and life; and

13 WHEREAS, Cathy W. Gassenheimer was recruited to
14 serve as A-Plus Education Partnership's first employee in
15 1991; her guiding spirit and expert leadership has helped the
16 development of A-Plus Education Partnership's Blueprint for
17 Successful Alabama Schools and assisted in the campaign to
18 broaden the coalition of Alabamians committed to improving
19 education by organizing 22 town hall meetings across the State
20 of Alabama, with over 23,000 joining the quest for a better
21 education; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1977, Cathy W. Gassenheimer graduated
23 with honors from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor's
24 Degree in Speech Communications and with minors in English,
25 Drama, and Education; later, she earned a Master's Degree in

1 Political Science from George Washington University; early in
2 her career, working for Congressman Bill Dickinson in
3 Washington, D.C., Blount International, and the Business
4 Council of Alabama, prepared her for working at A-Plus
5 Education Partnership; her interest in education was sparked
6 while working as an adjunct professor at Auburn University in
7 Montgomery; and

8 WHEREAS, she has helped lead the growth and success
9 of the organization by initiating a focus on quality teaching
10 by establishing, in 1999, the Task Force on Teaching and
11 Student Learning, which published the report that laid the
12 foundation that still continues today, Teaching and Learning:
13 Meeting the Challenge of High Standards; early results of the
14 task force include adoption of national standards for
15 professional development, a \$5,000 stipend for teachers
16 earning certification from the National Board for Professional
17 Teaching Standards, and the establishment of the A-Plus
18 Education Partnership's Best Practices Center; and

19 WHEREAS, serving as the Vice President of A-Plus
20 Education Partnership's Best Practices Center, she has
21 established networks for educators to improve student
22 achievement in math and reading, including the Powerful
23 Conversations Network, Key Leaders and Superintendents
24 Networks, and the Instructional Partners Network; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition, Cathy W. Gassenheimer is a
2 prolific author; her works range from the initial journal for
3 Alabama Educators, Working Toward Excellence, to articles for
4 national publications, including the Phi Delta Kappan, the
5 professional journal for educators, and Education Week, the
6 national education newspaper; she has been recognized by many
7 educators and has received the Southeastern Principal's Award
8 for Outstanding Contributions to Education and the Alabama
9 Staff Development Council's Staff Developer of the Year; and

10 WHEREAS, the inspirational leadership of Cathy W.
11 Gassenheimer, while inspiring all of those around her, has had
12 a tremendous impact upon teacher and student achievement in
13 the State of Alabama, including 14 regional networks serving
14 over 27,000 educators in 112 school systems; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Cathy W. Gassenheimer is
17 honored and commended after 31 years of service to Alabama
18 students and educators, and this resolution is offered in
19 highest tribute and deepest appreciation to her in recognition
20 of her outstanding achievements, along with our best wishes in
21 her well-deserved retirement.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 31-MAR-22.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

06-APR-22

Adopted