

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION congratulating Tara Cocanower for being named the 2023 Indiana Teacher of the Year.

HOLDMAN

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 123rd General Assembly (2023)

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION congratulating Tara
2 Cocanower for being named the 2023 Indiana Teacher of the
3 Year.

4 *Whereas, On October 5, 2022, Tara Cocanower was named*
5 *the 2023 Indiana Teacher of the Year, an award that is a*
6 *testament of her hard work and devotion to her students in and*
7 *out of the classroom;*

8 *Whereas, Mrs. Cocanower graduated from the University*
9 *of Southern Indiana with degrees in History and Secondary*
10 *Education before serving two years in Romania with the Peace*
11 *Corps to teach the Roma youth English;*

12 *Whereas, Upon her return to the United States, Mrs.*
13 *Cocanower taught middle school social studies for seven years*
14 *before moving to Bluffton High School to teach World History*
15 *and US History, including their advanced placement (AP)*
16 *sections, and has worked to develop fun, engaging, and*
17 *inclusive lessons that allow her students to learn history and*
18 *develop their own world views;*

19 *Whereas, Mrs. Cocanower's students have excelled under*
20 *her teaching, which has led them to pass the AP World History*
21 *Exam at nearly double the state's average rate and has*
22 *provided opportunities for her students to actively serve their*
23 *community;*

24 *Whereas, Mrs. Cocanower was named the 2021*
25 *Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District Teacher of the*

2023

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1 *year for her success in the classroom as well as her work in*
2 *roles as the school's high ability coordinator and co-technology*
3 *coordinator;*

4 *Whereas, Mrs. Cocanower has been a role model outside*
5 *the classroom by coaching the girls golf and the girls track and*
6 *field teams, leading a youth ministry, and serving on the board*
7 *of Hope Missionary Preschool;*

8 *Whereas, Indiana's Secretary of Education, Katie Jenner,*
9 *describes Mrs. Cocanower, who is entering her thirteenth year*
10 *as an educator, as "the embodiment of someone who was truly*
11 *meant to be a teacher"; and*

12 *Whereas, Teachers such as Mrs. Cocanower work to*
13 *elevate the teaching profession throughout Indiana, represent*
14 *Hoosier teachers at the national level, and have a profound*
15 *impact on the next generation of Hoosiers: Therefore,*

16 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*
17 *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives*
18 *concurring:*

19 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly
20 congratulates Tara Cocanower on being selected as the 2023
21 Indiana Teacher of the Year.

22 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
23 to transmit copies of this Resolution to Tara Cocanower and her
24 family, Bluffton High School Principal Steve Baker, and
25 Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner.

