

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY SENATOR CLAITOR

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and to congratulate Donna Lamonte of Baton Rouge upon receipt of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and to recognize her many contributions to education and the teaching profession.

WHEREAS, Donna Lamonte, a first grade teacher at Louisiana State University Laboratory School, was among one hundred eight elementary school educators selected for the prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, as a teacher, Mrs. Lamonte believes that the focus of a primary mathematics curriculum should be seated in teaching young students to think and reason logically about math and to engage a child's innate ability to use number theory in the discovery of useful mental mathematics techniques to solve challenging real world problems; and

WHEREAS, Donna Lamonte also acts as mentor for new teachers and student interns and imparts firm teaching tenets based on well-tested instructional practices; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Lamonte is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; she holds the Hines Family Endowed Professorship for the LSU College of Human Sciences and Education and also serves on the leadership team for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers for the college of education; and

WHEREAS, she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education and a Master of Education degree in elementary reading from LSU; she is certified in the elementary grades as a language arts reading specialist and is a National Board Certified Early Childhood Generalist; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching recognizes outstanding individual achievement in classroom instruction in these disciplines and exemplifies the highest national honor bestowed on educators for teaching excellence; and

WHEREAS, the award is administered through the National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency, that supports all manner of educational research within the realm of science, mathematics, and computer science studies; and

WHEREAS, the Presidential Awards program issues a ten thousand dollar grant to each recipient as an expression of how much her educational contributions are valued and appreciated; and

WHEREAS, during the first week of March 2014, Mrs. Lamonte attended a week-long conference in Washington, D.C., that afforded her the opportunity to network with other award-winning teachers and to compare instructional techniques and curricula options that make mathematics more relevant to today's students; and

WHEREAS, upon the citation President Obama commended her "for embodying excellence in teaching, for devotion to the learning needs of the students, and upholding the high standards that exemplify American education at its finest".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Donna Lamonte on her receipt of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize her contributions to further mathematics education and the teaching profession.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Donna Lamonte.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES