

No. R-341. House concurrent resolution congratulating Cathleen Newton on being named the 2009 Vermont winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

(H.C.R.188)

Offered by: Representatives Bohi of Hartford, Clarkson of Woodstock, Clerkin of Hartford, Mitchell of Barnard and Adams of Hartland

Offered by: Senators Campbell, McCormack and Nitka

Whereas, Cathleen Newton has devoted a quarter of a century to teaching young children, specifically second graders, and

Whereas, she began her pedagogic career with an 18-year tenure on the faculty of the Samuel Morey Elementary School in Fairlee and then relocated to the Dothan Brook School in Hartford, and

Whereas, the dynamics and intricacies of teaching young children have long fascinated her, and

Whereas, as a result of her master's degree research at the Vermont Institute for Science, Math and Technology, Cathleen Newton embarked on an educational odyssey in the field of mathematics education with the goal of becoming a better math teacher, and

Whereas, a major element of this self-initiated project was a study of how younger students learn to do fractions, and

Whereas, Dothan Brook School's principal was so impressed with her research that he nominated Cathleen Newton as a Vermont contender for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, and

Whereas, Congress established this award in 1983 “to exemplify the highest standards of mathematics and science teaching,” and winners are selected annually from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Department of Defense Schools, and the U.S territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and

Whereas, the National Science Foundation administers the awards, and nominees are subject to a rigorous assessment and review process, and

Whereas, award recipients receive a presidentially signed citation, a trip to our nation’s capital where they are honored along with the other winners, and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation, and

Whereas, Cathleen Newton was chosen as the 2009 Vermont recipient of this distinguished award and traveled to Washington, D.C. for the ceremony, where she was most deservedly honored for her outstanding accomplishments as an elementary school math teacher, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Cathleen Newton on being named the 2009 Vermont winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Cathleen Newton at the Dothan Brook School in Hartford.