

SENATE RESOLUTION

8665

By Senators McAuliffe, Hasegawa, Dammeier, Ericksen, Hill, Litzow, Rolfes, Jayapal, Kohl-Welles, Mullet, Chase, Fain, and Billig

1 WHEREAS, Washington's Teacher of the Year program provides
2 recognition for outstanding teachers and informs the public of the
3 dedication and commitment that Washington teachers contribute to the
4 education of their students; and

5 WHEREAS, Washington's Teacher of the Year program honors those
6 teachers who represent the best teachers in Washington; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Lyon Terry, a multiage classroom teacher at Lawton
8 Elementary School in the City of Seattle, Washington, and an educator
9 at Lawton for 10 years, is the 2015 Washington Teacher of the Year;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry is recognized as a National Board certified
12 teacher; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry recognizes the benefit of physical activity
14 for his students, and after noticing how many students were being
15 driven to school, recruited older students to act as crossing guards
16 and bus greeters, and successfully organized Seattle's first walking
17 school bus program; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry embraces teachers as agents of social change
19 and looks to shape young learners into confident, hard-working,
20 thoughtful citizens who treat others with kindness; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry is a compassionate educator who is concerned
22 about the whole student, and seeks to strengthen the relationship

1 between school and community so that educators can teach students
2 creatively to help them grow into smart, caring adults; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry understands that student engagement is created
4 through relationships, high expectations, and relevance in the
5 content students are learning, and is dedicated to creating the
6 relationships that drive his students to learn; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry enriches his classroom through his community
8 connections in scouting, sport programs, and various nonprofit
9 organizations, and consciously seeks to build community by
10 encouraging engagement between community members and his students in
11 the classroom; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry advocates for reading and writing proficiency
13 through his numerous leadership roles in his school and district, and
14 by working to integrate elements of Writer's Workshop into Lawton
15 Elementary's curriculum; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry serves on a district committee focused on
17 aligning reading and writing standards with the Common Core; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Terry's time at Lawton Elementary has seen 4th grade
19 writing proficiency rates on the Measurements of Student Progress
20 rise over 10 percentage points;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
22 encourage all teachers to aspire to excellence in their profession
23 and that the Senate pay a special tribute to Mr. Lyon Terry as the
24 2015 Washington Teacher of the Year.

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