**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO COMMEND CATHERINE N. PEDEN, ENGLISH TEACHER AT J.L. MANN HIGH SCHOOL IN GREENVILLE COUNTY, FOR HER COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO CONGRATULATE HER UPON BEING NAMED THE 2012‑2013 J.L. MANN TEACHER OF THE YEAR.

Whereas, it is with distinct pleasure that the South Carolina Senate recognizes educators who approach teaching with passion, creativity, and infectious enthusiasm, along with appropriate academic preparation for their fields; and

Whereas, Catherine N. Peden, an outstanding English teacher at J.L. Mann High School in Greenville County, richly deserves the honor of being named the 2012‑2013 J.L. Mann Teacher of the Year; and

Whereas, in preparation for her life’s work, this Greenville native graduated from J.L. Mann High School and earned her bachelor’s degree in English from the University of South Carolina. After working first as a prevention specialist with the Phoenix Center and later as a case manager with AID Upstate, she earned her master of arts in teaching from Converse College. Since that time, she also has earned a master of arts in administration from Gardner‑Webb University; and

Whereas, Cathy, as she is known to family and friends, returned to J.L. Mann in 2007 and took up her duties as a teacher of ninth grade English. Many educators avoid this transitional year for students, but Cathy rose to the challenge and excelled; and

Whereas, in only her fourth year of teaching, she was appointed chair of the J.L. Mann English Department. Even with her increased responsibilities as department chair, she continued to excel inside the classroom and was selected by her peers as the 2012‑2013 J.L. Mann Teacher of the Year; and

Whereas, believing she could do still more to help students, Cathy Peden founded the TutorTeam summer college, in which she prepares graduating eighth graders for their ninth grade experience, both academically and socially. She also has walked neighborhoods to reach parents who need to participate more fully in their children’s school progress; and

Whereas, with her husband, Seldon Peden, Cathy proudly parents three sons, Cameron, Seldon, and Ashdon; and

Whereas, with great admiration and appreciation, the Senate is pleased to honor this exceptional educator and daughter of South Carolina, Cathy Peden, as the 2012‑2013 Teacher of the Year for J.L. Mann High School, and the members join with her colleagues, students, family, and friends in extending best wishes for great success in all her future endeavors. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, commend Catherine N. Peden, English teacher at J.L. Mann High School in Greenville County, for her commitment to providing quality education for the children of South Carolina and congratulate her upon being named the 2012‑2013 J.L. Mann Teacher of the Year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Catherine N. Peden.

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