**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO HONOR AND CONGRATULATE LYNN HELMS OF ROCK HILL HIGH SCHOOL ON BEING NAMED STATE WINNER OF THE 2013 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD FOR GRADES 9 THROUGH 12.

Whereas, on February 16, 2013, Lynn Helms of Rock Hill High School was honored by Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2889 as state winner of the 2013 National Citizenship Education Teacher Award for grades 9 through 12; and

Whereas, each year, the VFW recognizes the nation’s top classroom elementary, junior high, and high school teachers for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students. These educators teach citizenship regularly, effectively promoting America’s history, traditions, and institutions; and

Whereas, Ozzie Ahl, principal of Rock Hill High School, says Lynn Helms’ dedication as a teacher inspires students and colleagues alike. Mrs. Helms, who has been teaching for forty years, the past twenty at Rock Hill High, modestly responds that she’s “just doing her job”; and

Whereas, this respected educator is both department head and a support teacher for her field. In the latter post, she spends time accompanying students into mainstream classrooms to help them and others learn, one of the toughest jobs for a special education teacher; and

Whereas, as department head, she is responsible for about two hundred ninety students. In that capacity, she assisted in the development of the district’s occupation diploma and worked with Winthrop University to give her students a chance to take classes or work on campus. Most of all, she has dedicated herself to removing the stigmas associated with special education; and

Whereas, grateful for her many contributions to the education of South Carolina’s greatest treasure, its children, the House of Representatives takes great pleasure in recognizing Lynn Helms as state winner of the 2013 VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. The members wish her all the best as she goes on to compete at the national level. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, honor and congratulate Lynn Helms of Rock Hill High School on being named state winner of the 2013 Veterans of Foreign Wars National Citizenship Education Teacher Award for grades 9 through 12.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Lynn Helms and to Rock Hill High School.

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