**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE TANYA PECKHAM ON BEING NAMED 2019‑2020 SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND TO THANK HER FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN EDUCATOR.

Whereas, the South Carolina House of Representatives is pleased to learn that Tanya Peckham has been named Sumter School District Teacher of the Year for 2019‑2020; and

Whereas, in preparation for her life’s work, Tanya earned her bachelor of science in early childhood education from the University of Rhode Island, followed by additional coursework for certification in elementary education. She received her master of arts in elementary education from the same institution and completed further university coursework in teaching of reading strategies; and

Whereas, a first‑grade teacher at Wilder Elementary School, Tanya has nineteen years of service in the field of education. As part of a military family, she has had the opportunity to teach grades one, two, and three in several states and served as assistant principal at an Arabic elementary school in the Middle East; and

Whereas, professionally, Tanya is a member of the International Literacy Association, South Carolina International Reading Association, and Palmetto State Teachers Association. Further, she is South Carolina Mentor Teacher‑trained, and she has enjoyed the opportunity to mentor many new teachers throughout her career. She serves on the Wilder Elementary STEAM Advisory Council and also has served for several years as grade‑level chair for first grade; and

Whereas, in addition, Tanya was named Wilder Elementary and Sumter Area Reading Council Distinguished Reading Teacher of the Year for 2015‑2016. While she has been named Teacher of the Year at three of her previous schools, Tanya is especially honored to be the Wilder Elementary Teacher of the Year and the Sumter School District Teacher of the Year for 2019‑2020; and

Whereas, Tanya teaches because she wants her students to know that someone is cheering for them and believes in them, even when they may not believe in themselves. She believes the adage that teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning and that what we learn becomes a part of who we are. She wants her students to be excited to come to school every day and hopes they continue to love learning; and

Whereas, grateful for the consistent commitment and excellence as an educator that Tanya Peckham has bestowed on the Palmetto State, the South Carolina House takes great pleasure in saluting her on receiving the prestigious Sumter School District Teacher of the Year award. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Tanya Peckham on being named 2019‑2020 Sumter School District Teacher of the Year and thank her for her years of dedicated service as an educator.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Tanya Peckham.

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