**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE JENNIFER MANCKE OF HARMONY SCHOOL IN COLUMBIA ON BEING NAMED 2020 STATE CONSERVATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR (PRIMARY) BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS 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 the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts (SCACD) has selected Jennifer Mancke of Harmony School in Columbia as 2020 State Conservation Teacher of the Year (Primary); and

Whereas, Ms. Mancke was officially recognized with the honor on February 18, 2020, at the SCACD Partnership Conference in Charleston; and

Whereas, this Richland County educator was nominated for the award by the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), which named her the county’s Conservation Teacher of the Year in 2019. Through the Conservation Teacher of the Year program, the Richland SWCD seeks to recognize and reward educators who prioritize environmental learning and teach their traditional curriculum through a conservation‑minded lens; and

Whereas, Ms. Mancke is the first‑ through fifth‑grade lead teacher at Harmony School, a nonprofit Forest Acres institution that offers a multiyear blended curriculum inspired by Montessori, Waldorf, and inquiry‑based principles. During the school day, she gets students directly involved in conservation efforts through activities such as gardening, composting, rainwater collecting, water testing, and recycling; and

Whereas, her class also has learned about conservation through visits to community sites, including the wastewater treatment plant, municipal water treatment plant, and several farms. At the start of each school day, her students discuss current events, including sustainability and environmental issues; and

Whereas, to celebrate Ms. Mancke’s state title, Chanda Cooper, education analyst for Richland County Conservation, brought a pollinator prize basket to Harmony School. The basket included a hummingbird feeder, wildflower mix, sunflower seeds, and other items to help expand the school’s pollinator gardens; and

Whereas, upon winning the county honor, Jennifer Mancke received a cash award and a Conservation Education Mini‑Grant for five hundred dollars toward school conservation projects. She will receive another cash prize for earning the state title; and

Whereas, grateful for the consistent commitment and excellence as an educator that Jennifer Mancke has bestowed on the Palmetto State, the South Carolina House takes great pleasure in saluting her on receiving the prestigious SCACD State Conservation Teacher of the Year (Primary) award for 2020. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, congratulate Jennifer Mancke of Harmony School in Columbia on being named 2020 State Conservation Teacher of the Year (Primary) by the South Carolina Association of Conservation Districts 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 Jennifer Mancke.

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