

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 69

*Commending Daphne Tamara Fulson.*

Agreed to by the House, January 17, 2022

Agreed to by the Senate, January 20, 2022

WHEREAS, Daphne Tamara Fulson, a second grade teacher at Portlock Primary School in Chesapeake, was named the 2022 Virginia Teacher of the Year on October 14, 2021, at the Executive Mansion in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Daphne Fulson earned a bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University (ODU) in 2013, studied Spanish linguistics at Universidad Veritas in San Jose, Costa Rica, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in educational leadership at the ODU Darden College of Education and Professional Studies; and

WHEREAS, while a student at ODU, Daphne Fulson has served as a Spanish translator, as co-chair of the Parents as Education Partners Program, and as a global ambassador for the school; and

WHEREAS, Daphne Fulson has 12 years of teaching experience, four of which have been with Chesapeake Public Schools; prior to her time in the Commonwealth, she studied in Peru and was an English as a Foreign Language instructor; she served with AmeriCorps, during which time she received the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award; and

WHEREAS, Daphne Fulson's accolades as an educator include the Sue Lehmann Teaching and Learning Fellowship for the Rio Grande Valley Texas region in 2016 and the Good to Transformational Teaching Fellowship in 2016; she was named the 2022 Region 2 Teacher of the Year in October 2021 before winning the statewide award; and

WHEREAS, Daphne Fulson was selected as the Region 2 Teacher of the Year by a panel of judges, including teachers, representatives of professional and educational associations, and the business community, who reviewed a portfolio detailing her professional accomplishments, educational philosophy, and community activities; and

WHEREAS, Daphne Fulson was then selected as Virginia Teacher of the Year from among the regional winners representing each of the eight superintendent's regions in the Commonwealth following an interview with the selection panel; and

WHEREAS, as the 2022 Virginia Teacher of the Year, Daphne Fulson is the Commonwealth's nominee for the National Teacher of the Year award, an honor bestowed annually by the Council of Chief State School Officers and other program partners; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her teaching duties at Portlock Primary School, Daphne Fulson is co-chair of the school's Math and STEAM Committee and serves as its math lead and city liaison, supporting the development of new curriculum; and

WHEREAS, many of Daphne Fulson's colleagues and supervisors credit her ability to form strong bonds with her students and to fulfill both their academic and socioemotional needs as the foundation to her success; and

WHEREAS, at the end of each class, Daphne Fulson offers her students words of affirmation, a subtle gesture that makes students feel appreciated and respected, encouraging them to give their best; and

WHEREAS, by supporting her students both academically and emotionally and ensuring they feel valued, Daphne Fulson has prepared many young people for the bright futures ahead of them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Daphne Tamara Fulson for being named the 2022 Virginia Teacher of the Year; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Daphne Tamara Fulson as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her contributions to the Commonwealth.

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