

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 211

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Bethany Stevens, on her selection as Teacher of the Year at Cookeville High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Stevens is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Stevens has recently been selected Teacher of the Year at Cookeville High School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Stevens received her bachelor's degree and master's degree from Tennessee Technological University as well as, a Specialist in Education; she recently received her Doctorate in Education from Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, she has served with acumen and alacrity as a physical science teacher for grades nine through twelve at Cookeville High for eight exemplary years; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable teacher is a member of numerous professional associations, including the National Science Teachers Association, the Tennessee Science Teachers Association, the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, the Putnam County Education Association, and the National Earth Science Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Stevens participates in a variety of professional leadership activities; she has served as one of three Master Teachers for Tennessee Technological University's Math and Science Partnership Grant for Secondary Math and Science Teachers since 2005; worked with a LEAPS grant in science education with a focus on building LEGO robots; designed and taught a summer science workshop for middle school teachers; developed

a physical science curriculum guide; assisted the president of TTU's Materials Advantage Organization to design a grant that provided for a two-day presentation about fuel cells to her students; and invited local Engineering majors to her classroom to talk about Industrial Engineering and its applications to society; and

WHEREAS, with a spirit for volunteerism, Ms. Stevens lends her time and talents to many worthwhile causes in her community, including Habitat for Humanity and TTU's Engineering A Future and LEGO League, two science-related programs aimed at middle school-aged students; she donated her time to the Putnam County Humane Society from 1995 to 2005, and to the Toy Drive for Genesis House in 2004; and

WHEREAS, for her dedication to excellence, Ms. Stevens was named the 2003-2004 Cookeville High School Student Congress Teacher of the Year and was listed in the 2004-2005 edition of *Who's Who Among American Teachers*; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Stevens is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Bethany Stevens truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Bethany Stevens on being chosen Teacher of the Year at Cookeville High School, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.