

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 354

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Trina Weaks on her selection as 2008-2009 Lewis County Intermediate School Teacher of the Year.

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, Trina Weaks, a teacher at Lewis County Intermediate School is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Weaks was recently selected by her peers as the 2008-2009 Lewis County Intermediate School Teacher of the Year, 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, in accepting this prestigious award, Trina Weaks stated, "I feel more than ever that teachers should be positive role models with today's youth. We can instill in them that education is very important. Most importantly, they can strive to be whatever they choose"; and

WHEREAS, a 1992 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, Ms. Weaks earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education before going on to study Elementary Reading and Literacy at Walden University, where she earned her Master of Science Degree in 2005; and

WHEREAS, an avid learner, she received her Specialist in Education degree in Administration and Supervision as well as her Beginning Administrator's License from Middle Tennessee State University in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Trina Weaks 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, Ms. Weaks has served for the past six years with acumen and alacrity as a teacher in the Academy for Intervention and Mastery (AIM) Program for at-risk students; and

WHEREAS, for the past ten years, she has been active as the third grade Jump Rope for Heart coordinator, the proceeds of which are donated to the American Heart Association to aid in the fight against heart disease; and

WHEREAS, during her exemplary teaching career, Trina Weaks has held numerous leadership roles, including serving as the lead teacher of the third grade for three years, as Co-Chair of the SACS Committee, Chairman of Lewis County Intermediate School's TSIP and SACS Committees in 2004, and as an assistant in the Principal's office; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Ms. Weaks has been awarded money from grants written to the Education Foundation and MLEC, and was most honored by a poem and a letter submitted on her behalf from a former student and parent, thanking her for being an inspirational teacher and having such a positive impact on her students; and

WHEREAS, Trina Weaks 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, she is a faithful and active member of the Lomax Church of Christ, which she has served through her involvement in various youth activities, Bible classes, and as a member of the visitation team; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Ms. Weaks is most appreciative of the love, support, and companionship she shares with her family and her daughter RoyeAnn; and

WHEREAS, Trina Weaks 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 SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Trina Weaks on being selected 2008-2009 Lewis County Intermediate School Teacher of the Year, 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.