

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVE BERAULT AND SENATOR OWEN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Kelly Ryan on being awarded the Milken Educator Award.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Kelly Ryan for her dedicated work as an educator in St. Tammany Parish and to commend her on receiving the prestigious Milken Educator Award; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Family Foundation's Milken Educator Awards program was created by Lowell Milken in 1987 to reward and inspire excellence in the world of education by honoring the top educators across the United States with an unrestricted \$25,000 cash reward; today, it stands as the nation's preeminent teacher recognition program with more than two thousand eight hundred exemplary teachers, principals, and specialists awarded; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Educator Awards are aimed at early-to-mid career education professionals for their impressive achievements, and more significantly, for the promise of what they will accomplish in the future; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Ryan is an alumna of Northshore High School in Slidell, Louisiana; she earned a bachelor's degree in biological sciences and a master's degree in molecular biology from Southeastern Louisiana University; and

WHEREAS, Kelly returned to her high school alma mater in 2014 to teach chemistry and environmental science at all grade levels, including junior- and senior-level honors classes; in addition to her teaching role, she is a member of the ACT Prep team, with whom she created a program that monitors test scores and works with students and their parents to achieve higher results; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ryan is a fervent believer in hands-on teaching and active engagement with students in the classroom, and her approach is focused on pushing her students to think critically and independently; she recognizes the pitfalls of a technology-driven world, where both good and bad information are readily available to all, and fosters an environment that encourages students to think for themselves by allowing them to explore and ask questions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ryan is an active member of Northshore's Instructional Leadership Team and a sponsor for the National Honor Society where she leads numerous community projects that include student food drives, writing letters to Santa with elementary students, and collecting donations for military service members overseas; additionally, she sponsors Northshore's middle school robotics team which qualified for nationals; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Ryan promotes in her students a love for learning that extends far beyond the classroom; she is now the first-ever St. Tammany Parish public school teacher to be recognized by the Milken Educator Awards program, and she will be presented with the award by St. Tammany Schools Superintendent Frankie Jabbia, Louisiana Superintendent of Education Cade Brumley, and Milken Educator Award-founder Lowell Milken; she is most deserving of the highest recognition for her truly incredible achievement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Kelly Ryan on being awarded the Milken Educator Award; does hereby recognize Ms. Ryan's immeasurable value to her students and to the state of Louisiana, as a dedicated, passionate, and talented educator; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue her inspiring work as a guide for many Louisiana children and prosper in her endeavors.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE