



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Those individuals who minister to the education
3 and well-being of our children are worthy of the highest
4 respect and admiration; and

5 WHEREAS, Melissa Cockburn and Sheila Stowers, both of Mt.
6 Vernon, recently achieved National Board Certification; these
7 accomplished teachers received notice of their achievement
8 from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in
9 late November of 2005; and

10 WHEREAS, Melissa Cockburn works with students in early
11 childhood through young adulthood and is an exceptional needs
12 specialist at Mt. Vernon High School; and

13 WHEREAS, Sheila Stowers specializes in adolescence and
14 young adulthood and teaches English language arts at Mount
15 Vernon High School; and

16 WHEREAS, National Board Certification is the teaching
17 profession's highest credential and the only route to the
18 Illinois Master Certificate; teachers who achieve it have spent
19 one year and hundreds of hours videotaping their teaching,
20 analyzing student work, and documenting their ability to help
21 all learners achieve to high standards; and

22 WHEREAS, Currently, Illinois has 1,573 National Board
23 Certified Teachers (NBCTs) and ranks eighth in the nation in
24 the total number of NBCTs; therefore, be it

25 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
26 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
27 we recognize the hard work and dedication of Melissa Cockburn
28 and Sheila Stowers that led to their achievement of National
29 Board Certification; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Ms. Cockburn and Ms. Stowers as an expression of
3 our deepest gratitude for their commitment to excellence and
4 devotion to education and meeting the needs of their students.