
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING LISA-ANNE TSURUDA AS THE 2009 MILKEN EDUCATOR
AWARD WINNER, JANICE ESPIRITU AS THE 2009 MASAYUKI TOKIOKA
AWARD WINNER, LIANE TANIGAWA AND SEANYELLE YAGI AS CO-
RECIPIENTS OF THE 2008 PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN
MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING, AND WALLY AMOS AS THE
RECIPIENT OF THE LITERACY ADVOCATE AWARD.

1 WHEREAS, in light of the important role the public
2 education system plays in solidifying Hawaii's future, it is
3 always a pleasure and privilege for the Hawaii State House of
4 Representatives to recognize those exceptional individuals that
5 have made significant achievements in education, inspiring and
6 challenging the young minds of our state, and encouraging the
7 people of the surrounding communities to become actively
8 involved in their community's schools; and
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10 WHEREAS, Lisa-Anne Tsuruda, who has taught language arts at
11 Mililani High School since 2005, is a true leader and a catalyst
12 for change; by striving continually to reach the goals and
13 expectations that she holds herself to, she demonstrates to her
14 students and her colleagues that the sky truly is the limit and
15 that success can be achieved through tenacity and motivation;
16 and has earned the great privilege of receiving the 2009 Milken
17 Educator Award; and
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19 WHEREAS, Janice Espiritu, who has been with Kaunakakai
20 Elementary School for 30 years, eight of which have been as
21 Principal of the school, believes that "the expressions of our
22 school mission and vision, and the principles of our beliefs are
23 simple and straightforward; however, these guideposts are
24 pillars of cultural, social, and familial interactions that
25 serve to support and extend the learning and achievements of our
26 youth," has earned the distinct honor of being named the
27 recipient of the 2009 Masayuki Tokioka Award; and



1 WHEREAS, Liane Tanigawa, in addition to teaching science to
2 students in the third through sixth grade at Pearl Ridge
3 Elementary School since 2005, and also serving as the school's
4 science curriculum specialist and mathematics/science coach,
5 believes that "this award reaffirms my educational beliefs that
6 learning should be engaging and meaningful, and it also
7 encourages me to continue sharing my love of teaching science
8 with others," has earned the well-deserved recognition of being
9 a recipient of the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in
10 Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

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12 WHEREAS, Seanyelle Yagi, who taught kindergarten through
13 fifth grade mathematics at Ka'ewai Elementary School for 12
14 years and, at the time of the award served as the school's
15 mathematics coach/coordinator and as a mentor to new teachers,
16 and who currently teaches mathematics at Kalakaua Middle School
17 tries "to challenge myself to take risks and develop my
18 pedagogical and content knowledge, and the award represents what
19 is possible when you push yourself to give students
20 opportunities for individual growth and accomplishment," has
21 received the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in
22 Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

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24 WHEREAS, Wally Amos, who dedicated his efforts to Literacy
25 Volunteers of America where he served as their National
26 Spokesperson from 1979 to 2002, and as a literacy advocate uses
27 his well-known name to support educational causes and serves on
28 the boards of the National Center for Family Literacy, Read to
29 Me International, and Communities in Schools, in addition to
30 many others, and in 2005 along with his wife, Christine, founded
31 the Read it Loud!, a non-profit organization, to promote reading
32 aloud to children, and believes that "reading is the foundation
33 of life for all of us," and encourages people to take bold steps
34 to promote literacy, such as creating "a whole campaign in your
35 city to promote the awareness for the importance of reading
36 aloud"; now, therefore,

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38 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
39 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
40 of 2010, that this body hereby recognizes, congratulates, and
41 honors, Lisa-Anne Tsuruda as the 2009 Milken Educator Award



1 Winner, Janice Espiritu as the 2009 Masayuki Tokioka Award
2 Winner, Liane Tanigawa and Seanyelle Yagi as co-recipients of
3 the 2008 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and
4 Science Teaching, and Wally Amos as the Literacy Advocate Award
5 recipient, and extends to all of them its sincere mahalo and
6 best wishes for continued success.
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OFFERED BY:

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