SENATE RESOLUTION

8712

By Senators Litzow, Jayapal, Fain, Habib, McAuliffe, Hill, and Fraser

WHEREAS, Mr. Ryan Lafferty has ably served the Bellevue community as a teacher and mentor for five years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty was nationally recognized, winning the Milken Educator Award, and was the only teacher in Washington state to do so; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty has a passion for learning and educating that exceeds expectations, and inspires this passion within his supervisors, peers, and students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty instills a love of learning in his students, keeping them engaged, excited, and challenged; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty pushes students to feel confident in their abilities and expand their learning by asking deeper questions and teaching to multiple learning styles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty utilizes project-based learning, allowing students to apply their learning to the real world; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty's students are inspired to do more and be more, one declaring "I want to be a physics teacher"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty never stops helping, whether it's during his summer break, prep period, lunch break, or after hours; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty takes action to make our education system better, implementing a new science program for students who complete all other science courses at their school, helping his coworker rebuild the 8th grade physics curriculum, collaborating to write a new physics curriculum for the district, and helping write a problem-based Advanced Placement Physics curriculum that will be available nationally; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty demonstrates his commitment to all students through his work with special education students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty worked with an autistic student, providing extra support so the student was able to graduate and get an internship at Microsoft; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty's students' pass rate on the Advanced Placement Physics exam is above the national average, and his students excel on district assessments; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty works with the high school and middle school science clubs, collaborates with veterans, advises the National Honor Society, mentors new teachers, and heads a video game design focus week; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty is a natural leader, bridging the gap between science and education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate recognize Ryan Lafferty for his career of leadership and passionate commitment to the students and families of the Bellevue community.

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,

do hereby certify that this is a true and

correct copy of Senate Resolution 8712,

adopted by the Senate

February 23, 2016

HUNTER G. GOODMAN

Secretary of the Senate