

SENATE RESOLUTION

8712

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Lafferty takes action to make our education system  
21 better, implementing a new science program for students who complete  
22 all other science courses at their school, helping his coworker  
23 rebuild the 8th grade physics curriculum, collaborating to write a

1 new physics curriculum for the district, and helping write a problem-  
2 based Advanced Placement Physics curriculum that will be available  
3 nationally; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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