

2023 -- S 1122

LC003171

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AIMEE COUTO ON BEING NAMED THE 2024 "RHODE ISLAND
TEACHER OF THE YEAR" BY THE RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Introduced By: Senators Lawson, Lauria, Britto, DiMario, Felag, F. Lombardi, E
Morgan, Paolino, Murray, and Rogers

Date Introduced: June 14, 2023

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Aimee Couto, a first and fourth grade teacher at Emma G. Whiteknact
2 Elementary School in East Providence for the past twelve years, has been named the 2024
3 "Rhode Island Teacher of the Year" by the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and
4 Secondary Education. Mrs. Couto is an exceptional teacher who has made a profound impact in
5 the lives of her students and she is truly deserving of this award; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Couto is a passionate and resourceful teacher who everyday inspires
7 her students to love learning and instills in them the confidence to believe that through their hard
8 work and natural abilities, they all have promising futures; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Couto, who struggled with reading as a child, is a strong advocate of
10 project-based learning and the science of reading. She has successfully turned her classroom into
11 a laboratory of learning where all her students thrive. She created a structured classroom that
12 involves a number of educational learning approaches including, direct teaching, lively letters,
13 SEL lessons, brain breaks, Heggerty phonemic awareness drills, and working in small groups and
14 individually on specific skills; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Couto works tirelessly to continuously study, maintain and update data
16 information, to secure the resources needed for her students to succeed at whatever level of
17 learning they are currently at, and to ensure that she is embedding in her classroom the best
18 practices in ELA and Math; and

19 WHEREAS, Equally important is the fact that Mrs. Couto is a kind and compassionate

1 person who cares deeply about the learning and wellness of every student in her classroom. She
2 has been described by the school's principal, Laurie Marchand, as being, "a fierce advocate for
3 students and their overall success." It was also noted in the nomination process that Mrs. Couto
4 "takes the time to get to know each student on a deep level to ensure that they feel safe and loved
5 in the classroom"; and

6 WHEREAS, As the Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Couto will have the opportunity to work
7 with the Rhode Island Department of Education during the 2023-2024 year in support of
8 education statewide. She will also represent Rhode Island as a National Teacher of the Year; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Couto, in her free time, loves to run and enjoy a Starbucks coffee.
10 Most important in her life is her family. She is the beloved wife of Adam Couto and devoted
11 mother to her children, Madison, Jacob and Dylan; now, therefore be it

12 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby heartily congratulates
13 Aimee Couto on being named the 2024 "Rhode Island Teacher of the Year" by the Rhode Island
14 Department of Education; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
16 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Mrs. Aimee Couto.

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