

By: Representative McAlindon

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO CONGRATULATE BENTONVILLE EDUCATOR BONNIE POLLOCK
FOR RECEIVING A MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD AND ITS
ACCOMPANYING PRIZE OF \$25,000.

Subtitle

TO CONGRATULATE BENTONVILLE EDUCATOR
BONNIE POLLOCK FOR RECEIVING A MILKEN
EDUCATOR AWARD AND ITS ACCOMPANYING
PRIZE OF \$25,000.

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2025, Bonnie Pollock, who has been an educator for twelve (12) years, received a prestigious Milken Educator Award and its accompanying prize of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000); and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Pollock currently teaches grade six (6) at Old High Middle School in Bentonville, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the Milken Educator Award, also known as the "Oscars of Teaching", is always presented in a surprise ceremony for recipients because educators do not apply for the award but instead are confidentially recommended to the Milken Family Foundation by a blue-ribbon panel appointed by each state's department of education; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the prize of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), recipients of the Milken Educator Award are paired with veteran Milken Educator Award recipients as part of the mentorship program Milken Friends Forever; and



WHEREAS, Bonnie Pollock has been invited to attend the annual Milken Educator Awards Forum in Los Angeles, California, in April 2025; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Pollock is known for having a transformative classroom, fostering collaboration, and propelling student growth; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Pollock said of her students, "Last year, Arkansas did the first Civics Bee and I had five of the nine finalists at state from my sixth-grade class. I [taught] sixth grade literacy and social studies last year, so that was just a way to connect social studies and writing to a real-world thing"; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of the Department of Education Jacob Oliva said of Bonnie Pollock's win, "We're talking about the great work that's happening in the State of Arkansas that has been recognized at a national level. For our teachers' names to go across the finish line is saying you're not only just great in the State of Arkansas, but you're one of the greatest teachers in the nation. It's something that we're very proud to be a part of"; and

WHEREAS, Bonnie Pollock said of her win, "I'm very shocked and overwhelmed . . . [The school administration is] pushing us to change and think in creative ways . . . a lesson may go poorly, but I have the permission and the forgiveness ahead of time to try something new if I think that it's going to work for our kids",

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives congratulate Bentonville educator Bonnie Pollock for receiving a Milken Educator Award and its accompanying prize of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Bonnie Pollock by the Chief Clerk of the House of

Representatives.