

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 356

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Members of Congress should substitute teach at least 1 day per year in a public school to gain firsthand knowledge on how to address the prevailing challenges facing educators and how to remove obstacles to learning for students.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 11, 2017

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Members of Congress should substitute teach at least 1 day per year in a public school to gain firsthand knowledge on how to address the prevailing challenges facing educators and how to remove obstacles to learning for students.

Whereas teachers play a critical role in shaping the minds and lives of children;

Whereas there were 3,100,000 full-time public school teachers in 2016;

Whereas approximately 200,000 teachers leave the profession each year;

Whereas in the 114th Congress, there were more than 3 times as many Members of Congress that had back-

grounds in public service or politics than Members of Congress that had backgrounds in education; and

Whereas Members of Congress should be on the ground in public schools to understand the challenges that educators and students face, including—

- (1) a growing shortage of teachers;
- (2) issues of teacher pay;
- (3) a lack of resources, in both urban and rural areas;
- (4) teacher preparedness;
- (5) chronic absenteeism among students;
- (6) poverty; and
- (7) parental involvement: Now, therefore, be it

1     *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2             (1) recognizes the contributions of teachers to  
3     the United States;

4             (2) thanks teachers for their service; and

5             (3) recommends that each Member of Congress  
6     spend at least 1 day per year serving as a substitute  
7     teacher in a public school.

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