

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 792

Supporting the contributions of Catholic schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2020

Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

RESOLUTION

Supporting the contributions of Catholic schools.

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States are internationally acclaimed for their academic excellence and provide students with more than an exceptional scholastic education;

Whereas Catholic schools instill a broad, values-added education emphasizing the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in young people in the United States;

Whereas Catholic schools serve the Nation by providing a diverse student population from all regions of the country and all socioeconomic backgrounds a strong academic and moral foundation, including 39 percent of students from

racial and ethnic minority backgrounds and 19 percent from non-Catholic families;

Whereas Catholic schools are an affordable option for parents, particularly in underserved urban areas;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual, character, and moral development;

Whereas Catholic schools are committed to community service, producing graduates who hold “helping others” among their core values;

Whereas the total Catholic school student enrollment for the 2018–2019 academic year was almost 1,800,000 and the student-teacher ratio was 12 to 1;

Whereas the Catholic high school graduation rate is 99 percent, with 86 percent of graduates attending 4-year colleges;

Whereas in the 2005 pastoral message “Renewing Our Commitment to Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools in the Third Millennium”, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, “Catholic schools are often the Church’s most effective contribution to those families who are poor and disadvantaged, especially in poor inner city neighborhoods and rural areas. Catholic schools cultivate healthy interaction among the increasingly diverse populations of our society. In cities and rural areas, Catholic schools are often the only opportunity for economically disadvantaged young people to receive an education of quality that speaks to the development of the whole person. Our Catholic schools have produced count-

less numbers of well-educated and moral citizens who are leaders in our civic and ecclesial communities.”;

Whereas the week of January 26, 2020, to February 1, 2020, has been designated as National Catholic Schools Week by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, and January 29, 2020, has been designated National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools;

Whereas the National Catholic Schools Week was first established in 1974 and has been celebrated annually for the past 46 years;

Whereas 30 percent of Catholic schools have waiting lists for admission and new schools are opening across the country; and

Whereas the theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2020 is Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals of National Catholic
3 Schools Week, an event cosponsored by the National
4 Catholic Educational Association and the United
5 States Conference of Catholic Bishops and estab-
6 lished to recognize the vital contributions of the
7 thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary
8 schools in the United States;

9 (2) applauds the National Catholic Educational
10 Association and the United States Conference of

1 Catholic Bishops on their selection of a theme that
2 all can celebrate; and

3 (3) supports the dedication of Catholic schools,
4 students, parents, and teachers across the United
5 States toward academic excellence, and supports the
6 key role they play in promoting and ensuring a
7 brighter, stronger future for the Nation.

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