

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 426

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 14, 2019

Mr. KENNEDY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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 are projected to be 3,200,000 full-time public school teachers in 2020;

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

Whereas in the 115th Congress, there were more than 2 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 challenges relating to—

- (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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