

By: Price

H.R. No. 330

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Shanna Peeples of Palo Duro High School in Amarillo  
2 has been named the 2015 Texas Teacher of the Year, which is the  
3 highest honor that can be bestowed upon a teacher in the state, and  
4 she is one of four finalists for the National Teacher of the Year  
5 award; and

6           WHEREAS, An English teacher who joined the faculty at Palo  
7 Duro High in 2008, Ms. Peeples was also selected as the 2015 Texas  
8 Secondary Teacher of the Year; she is an exceptionally skilled and  
9 dedicated instructor, and she also serves as a compassionate mentor  
10 to her students, drawing on her own experiences to help them  
11 overcome obstacles; the chair of the English department, she  
12 further benefits the campus as an instructional coach, as National  
13 Honor Society cosponsor, and as a member of the textbook adoption  
14 committee and the D-FORCE positive behavioral support committee;  
15 after school hours, she opens her classroom for use as a safe space  
16 for informal writing and discussion groups; and

17           WHEREAS, This dynamic educator has been a member of the  
18 Amarillo Independent School District English Language Arts  
19 Standards committee since 2009; moreover, she has conducted  
20 literacy workshops for K-12 teachers, and she has presented  
21 numerous papers at staff development events and professional  
22 conferences of organizations such as the National Council of  
23 Teachers of English, the Texas Council of Teachers of English  
24 Language Arts, and Abydos Learning International; in addition, she

1 is active in the wider community in initiatives that promote  
2 literacy and the development of writing ability; and

3 WHEREAS, Before joining the faculty at Palo Duro High,  
4 Ms. Peeples taught seventh grade English Language Arts at Horace  
5 Mann Middle School in Amarillo; she completed her bachelor's degree  
6 in English at West Texas A&M University and went on to earn a  
7 master's degree in education from The University of Texas at  
8 Arlington, specializing in curriculum and instruction with an  
9 emphasis in literacy studies; and

10 WHEREAS, Shanna Peeples is devoted to providing young Texans  
11 with the knowledge and skills they need to realize their dreams, and  
12 her passion, determination, and commitment to excellence are an  
13 inspiration to her students and fellow educators alike; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
16 Legislature hereby congratulate Shanna Peeples on her selection as  
17 the 2015 Texas Teacher of the Year and finalist for National Teacher  
18 of the Year and extend to her sincere best wishes for continued  
19 success in her important endeavors; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
21 prepared for Ms. Peeples as an expression of high regard by the  
22 Texas House of Representatives.