Madam Speaker,

I am honored to rise today to congratulate a teacher in my district who has been recognized for her excellence in teaching. Bess Mitsakos, from the Wallace School in Hoboken, New Jersey, received the International Technology Educators Association Program Excellence Award for elementary schools in New Jersey on February 22, 2008.

Ms. Mitsakos began her teaching career nine years ago and has spent the last 7 years as a kindergarten through fifth grade science teacher. In that short time, she has become a highly decorated teacher, with a number of awards to her name. Ms. Mitsakos is committed to increasing student interest, engagement, and learning through the use of computer-based educational tools as well as engineering and technological design activities. I have no doubt that her students will have a strong science, math and engineering foundation that will help them succeed in life.

I am proud of her accomplishments, and I wish her continued success over the remainder of her career. I yield back.

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