

Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Orentlicher

A RESOLUTION honoring St. Thomas Aquinas School as a recipient of the 2005 No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School Award.

Whereas, St. Thomas Aquinas School was among eight Indianapolis metropolitan area schools that were selected as a 2005 No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School;

Whereas, The No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School program honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in the school's state or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement;

Whereas, To be named a No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School, a school must meet one of two assessment

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criteria;

Whereas, A school must have either at least 40 percent of the school's students from disadvantaged backgrounds who dramatically improve student performance in state assessment systems or score in the top ten percent on state assessments;

Whereas, At least one-third of the schools submitted by each state must meet the criteria of having 40 percent of the students come from disadvantaged backgrounds;

Whereas, The program allows both elementary and secondary schools to be recognized in the same year;

Whereas, It is even more difficult for private schools to earn this honor;

Whereas, Before a private school can be nominated for a No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School award, the Council of American Private Schools must approve the selection;

Whereas, This year marks the first time the three Roman Catholic Archdioceses of Indianapolis schools, Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Simon the Apostle, and St. Thomas Aquinas, have been selected; more than 90 percent of the students tested from each school passed the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress-Plus in 2003, the year used for review; and

Whereas, Blue Ribbon schools are an example of achievement by students and teachers working together toward one goal: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
2 congratulates the teachers, students, and parents of St. Thomas Aquinas
3 School for their outstanding accomplishment and wishes them
4 continued success in the future.

5 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House transmit a copy
6 of this resolution to Bonnie Stevens, Principal of St. Thomas Aquinas
7 School.

