By Senator Legg

17-03529-13 20131900

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) 2012 United States Outstanding Doctoral and Research Universities Professor of the Year, Autar Kaw, Ph.D.

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WHEREAS, the United States Professors of the Year Awards Program, administered by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) each year salutes one professor nationwide at a doctoral and research university and this award is considered the nation's highest such honor, and

WHEREAS, the criteria for this award includes demonstration by the professor of extraordinary dedication to undergraduate teaching, which is evidenced by excellence in the following areas: impact on and involvement with undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contribution to undergraduate education in the institution, community, and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former undergraduate students, and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Professor of the Year Awards Program in 1981 and until 2012, no doctoral and research university professor in this state had been awarded this distinction, and

WHEREAS, Autar Kaw, Ph.D. is a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of South Florida, where he has taught aspiring engineers for the past 25 years, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kaw has dedicated his career to eliminating

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one of the most significant obstacles to engineering students through his innovative and forward-thinking approach to education, his use of technology to expand learning opportunities around the world, and his tireless pursuit of new and engaging teaching methods, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kaw has received numerous professional honors, including being named a fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and a member of the American Society of Engineering Education, was awarded the National Outstanding Teaching Medal from the American Society for Engineering Education in 2011, and has authored four widely used textbooks, and

WHEREAS, as a pioneer in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and through his use of his Holistic Numerical Methods Institute website, his blog, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube video lectures, Dr. Kaw has become affectionately known among engineering students around the world as the "Numerical Methods Guy," and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2012, Dr. Kaw was named the 2012 United States Outstanding Doctoral and Research Universities Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and CASE, and

WHEREAS, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and CASE specifically recognized Dr. Kaw for his innovative work in using new technologies and social media to teach complex mathematical calculations to tens of thousands of students around the world studying to be engineers, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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That we recognize the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) 2012 United States Outstanding Doctoral and Research Universities Professor of the Year, Autar Kaw, Ph.D., and express appreciation for his service to this state and for the recognition this award brings to the State of Florida, the University of South Florida, and to the State University System of Florida.