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**JOINT RESOLUTION, DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL
25, 2011 LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK**

WHEREAS, school boards are charged under law with the allimportant responsibility of being accountable for the education of Maine children in order to prepare them for a rewarding and productive future; and

WHEREAS, school boards must articulate a vision and direction for their school districts, set high academic standards and approve the hiring of qualified staff most capable of making that vision a reality; and

WHEREAS, school boards must adopt a budget that balances student needs with the community's ability to pay and advocate for passage of that budget to ensure adequate funding to provide all children with the opportunity to learn; and

WHEREAS, all of these responsibilities and more are done by volunteer board members, who put in countless hours in meetings and in the community advocating for their schools, representing the interests of children, parents and all citizens of the district and preserving the valued tradition of local control over kindergarten to grade 12 public education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate the week of April 25, 2011 as Local School Board Recognition Week, and we encourage local school districts and community leaders to appropriately recognize dedicated school board members across the State.