

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-MD) released the following statement today in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-12):

“This week we pay tribute to some of the most important individuals in our nation: teachers. Most of us owe our teachers a great debt, not only for our education in the classroom, but for inspiring and encouraging us to pursue our dreams and helping us realize the individual strengths and skills we possess.

“Many teachers will say that their reward is inherent in what they do, but it is important that we recognize the great contributions these unsung heroes make, particularly as they are faced with the additional challenges of preparing the next generation to compete in an increasingly global economy that demands a highly skilled workforce.

“It is true that much is expected from our educators - and while many have answered the call to join the teaching profession - this fact has sometimes discouraged potential teachers and prevented many from pursuing a career in teaching. But without enough qualified educators, there will be no doctors, entrepreneurs, military officers, and even members of Congress in the coming generations, and America will be unprepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

“Quality education is the best investment we can make in our children - and it starts with our teachers. America must give teachers the right tools and rewards – a livable salary, safe classrooms, and sufficient resources for quality instruction – if they are to meet the high expectations we have set for them. If we do not, we put at risk the future of America’s children, not to mention the future of America’s leadership in the global economy.

“We are fortunate in Maryland to have some of the most talented educators in the nation, and I am fortunate to have the opportunity to pay tribute to them. While this week is designated as a time to show appreciation for our teachers and educators, we should always be mindful of the life changing work that these dedicated public servants undertake every day.

“I hope Marylanders will join me in honoring Maryland’s teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions our teachers make to our communities.”

## **Hoyer Praises the Contributions of Maryland's Teachers During Teacher Appreciation Week**

May 08, 2007

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In celebration of National Teacher Appreciation Week, Rep. Hoyer will be hosting a Teacher Luncheon for 5th District educators who have received honors for demonstrating exceptional talent in the teaching profession. The luncheon will be held on Monday, May 21, from Noon – 1:30 p.m. and is open to the press.

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