

Today, U.S. Rep. John Campbell (R-CA) congratulated five teachers from the 48th district - Julia Balandis (Irvine), Allison Butler (Irvine), Shiu-Sian Hsu (Irvine), Sharon Saxton, and Lorraine Skelton (Silverado) - who have earned National Board Certification, the highest level of certification in t... Today, U.S. Rep. John Campbell (R-CA) congratulated five teachers from the 48<sup>th</sup> district - Julia Balandis (Irvine), Allison Butler (Irvine), Shiu-Sian Hsu (Irvine), Sharon Saxton, and Lorraine Skelton (Silverado) - who have earned National Board Certification, the highest level of certification in the teaching profession from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. **“It is a pleasure to honor these outstanding teachers for earning National Board Certification. I appreciate their hard work and dedication to providing the best education for our children,”** said Rep. Campbell. **“They deserve all of our respect and gratitude for their outstanding work.”**

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward great teachers. Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. It is offered in 25 different subjects, covering 97 percent of the subjects taught in K-12 school.

California ranked sixth nationwide in the number of new National Board Certified Teachers in 2008 with 365 state teachers. Overall, California ranks fourth in the total number of teachers who achieved certification over time with a total of 4,240 teachers recognized.

The teachers from the 48<sup>th</sup> Congressional District join the ranks of 9,600 teachers nationwide that achieved this distinction in 2008, bringing the total number of teachers who have achieved National Board Certification to nearly 74,000.