

By: Frazier, Ross

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 594  
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MURRAH  
2 HIGH SCHOOL FOR BEING LISTED AMONG THE TOP-RANKED PUBLIC SECONDARY  
3 SCHOOLS IN THE NATION BASED UPON TEST SCORES.

4 WHEREAS, Murrah High School is among the top ranked public  
5 secondary schools in the nation for its high rate of graduates and  
6 number of students who take advanced level college courses,  
7 according to the current issue of Newsweek magazine, which lists  
8 the Jackson school at No. 226 among 472 public high schools across  
9 the nation - Murrah was the only Mississippi high school to make  
10 the list; and

11 WHEREAS, public schools are ranked by a ratio of the number  
12 of Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests taken  
13 by all students at a school in 1999 divided by the number of  
14 graduating seniors; and

15 WHEREAS, last year, 351 Advanced Placement test were  
16 administered at Murrah and the school had 250 graduating seniors;  
17 students who pass the college-level tests receive both high school  
18 credit and college credit if the college they attend accepts AP  
19 credit; and

20 WHEREAS, this acknowledgment is proof that students are  
21 meeting the high standards that have been set at the school, where  
22 students are also excelling academically because administrators,  
23 teachers, parents and students work as a team to ensure students  
24 receive a quality education; and

25 WHEREAS, Murrah is also the only public high school in  
26 Jackson that has an Academic and Performing Arts Complex program;

27 and

28 WHEREAS, there are nine Advanced Placement courses offered at  
29 Murrah and 32 different AP classes are offered at high schools  
30 throughout the state; in 1999, a total of 2,972 Mississippi high  
31 school students were enrolled in AP classes; and

32 WHEREAS, the nationwide distinction should assure students at  
33 Murrah they are being equipped with the necessary skills to  
34 succeed anywhere; this illustrates the quality that exists in  
35 public schools and it brings positive attention to public schools  
36 that sometimes the public misses; and

37 WHEREAS, school districts realize what research is saying to  
38 us, which is, it's not the rank in class or the grade point  
39 average that predicts college success, it is how rigorous or  
40 challenging a student's high school courses are that indicates  
41 success; and

42 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we acknowledge this  
43 national recognition for Murrah High School which shows that  
44 Mississippi schools are offering a premium education:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
46 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
47 we do hereby commend and congratulate Murrah High School in  
48 Jackson, Mississippi, for being listed by Newsweek magazine among  
49 the top-ranked public secondary schools in the nation based upon  
50 test scores, and urge other public schools across the state to  
51 replicate this honor.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
53 presented to Principal Karen Wilson of Murrah High School and  
54 Superintendent Jayne Sargeant, and be made available to the  
55 Capitol Press Corps.