

By: Representatives Scott (17th), Holland,  
Ford

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING PIERCE STREET ELEMENTARY  
2 SCHOOL ON RECEIVING THE 2001 ARTS EDUCATION AWARD OF THE  
3 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS.

4 WHEREAS, Pierce Street Elementary School will be honored on  
5 February 9, 2001, for receiving the 2001 Arts Education Award of  
6 the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts; and

7 WHEREAS, since Pierce Street Elementary School became one of  
8 the five pilot schools of the Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole  
9 Schools Project in 1995, the school has evolved as a leader in the  
10 field of arts integration throughout the nation; and

11 WHEREAS, Pierce Street's initiative, called the Discovery  
12 Zone, has yielded high quality arts experiences to students,  
13 parents, administrators, staff and community through the  
14 development in the arts and newly created partnerships with  
15 parents, businesses and the community; and

16 WHEREAS, the arts play a valuable role in making natural  
17 connections throughout the curriculum, reinforcing academic skills  
18 and promoting critical thinking skills to a traditionally  
19 undeserved population; and

20 WHEREAS, the actual implementation of the project has  
21 surpassed the original goals and plans with the outcome worthy of  
22 replication for other schools around the state and nation; and

23 WHEREAS, student achievement has improved over the past five  
24 years with Pierce Street Elementary School named the most improved  
25 elementary school in the Tupelo School District in 1999; and

26 WHEREAS, because of its dramatic success over the years,  
27 Pierce Street has become a mecca for educators interested in

28 learning how to use the arts in arts integration as the staff has  
29 evolved as leaders in arts integration presenting workshops and  
30 serving as mentors to others; and

31 WHEREAS, Pierce Street's vision, implementation, leadership  
32 and enthusiasm have surpassed original goals and have raised  
33 public awareness of the value of the arts in the education process  
34 within the district, community, state and nation; and

35 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
36 and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by our schools,  
37 which affect the young people of our state, who are its future:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
39 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
40 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Pierce Street Elementary School  
41 for receiving the 2001 Arts Education Award of the Governor's  
42 Awards for Excellence in the Arts.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
44 furnished to Pierce Street Elementary School, Principal Debbie  
45 Davis and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.