

By: Senator(s) Browning

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING NEW ALBANY MIDDLE
2 SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, SANDY KENT, UPON HER SELECTION
3 AS THE NEW ALBANY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2001.

4 WHEREAS, Sandy Kent has been nominated and selected by
5 faculty members, administrators and citizens as the New Albany
6 Municipal Separate School District Teacher of the Year 2001 and
7 candidate for the statewide Mississippi Teacher of the Year Award;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Sandy, a special education teacher at New Albany
10 Middle School, has taught special education for 25 years; and

11 WHEREAS, when Sandy first applied for a position with the New
12 Albany City Schools at Mattie Thompson Elementary School, she said
13 she had never heard of learning disabilities and was asked by the
14 principal if she would be willing to take courses to get certified
15 to teach this class. She did not hesitate and was thrilled to
16 enter a new area of education; and

17 WHEREAS, eventually, self-contained students were added to
18 her resource class offering new and rewarding challenges, and
19 after ten years on staff, she was reassigned to the Trainable
20 Mentally Retarded self-contained class at New Albany Middle
21 School; and

22 WHEREAS, while Sandy was somewhat hesitant, she did give it a
23 try and found that she loved it tremendously. The class has since
24 evolved into a multi-handicapped class. "It was quite different
25 to the special education class I started out with 25 years ago,"
26 she said. "My students are challenged with the most severe of
27 disabilities"; and

28 WHEREAS, the job is physically and mentally demanding, but
29 Sandy has found it to be very rewarding and is pleased to provide
30 educational services that make her students eager to come to
31 school, and to win the trust of her students' parents to provide
32 the services they need; and

33 WHEREAS, Sandy's selection as Teacher of the Year is a true
34 testament to her devotion to her students and their parents, her
35 dedication to the teaching profession, and is an example for all
36 beginning teachers in the State of Mississippi:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
38 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate New Albany
39 Middle School Special Education Teacher Sandy Kent upon her
40 selection as the New Albany School District Teacher of the Year
41 2001, and wish her success in her application for Mississippi
42 Teacher of the Year and in her future professional endeavors.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
44 presented to Mrs. Kent and furnished to New Albany Superintendent
45 of Schools, Dr. Charles Garrett, Jr., and be made available to the
46 Capitol Press Corps.