SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 527

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. JOHNNIE PEARL GRIFFIN RANDLE AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR MRS. RANDLE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO HER COMMUNITY, STATE AND COUNTRY.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnnie Pearl Griffin Randle is a concerned citizen, a dedicated church worker and a civic activist; and
WHEREAS, Mrs. Randle is the widow of the late Ashley Randle, Jr., and is the devoted mother of five children; and
WHEREAS, Mrs. Randle, herself the oldest of seven children, had to discontinue her own schooling at the age of 17 in order to help rear her younger siblings due to the death of their mother; and
WHEREAS, when the opportunity arose, Mrs. Randle studied and earned her G.E.D. and accomplished further study at the Lowndes County Parents and Teachers Center; and
WHEREAS, over the years Mrs. Randle has touched many lives; and
WHEREAS, in 1989 Mrs. Randle was elected National President of the National West Point Alumni, Incorporated, which is composed of five chapters; West Point, Mississippi; Detroit/Flint, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois; St. Louis/East St. Louis, Missouri; and Washington, D.C./East Coast chapters; and
WHEREAS, since that time Mrs. Randle has more than ably served in her dual roles as President of both the West Point Chapter and the national organization; and
WHEREAS, it is Mrs. Randle's firmly held belief it is the responsibility of organizations of this type and the members thereof to stand up to the challenge of helping young people go on
to college and make a better life for themselves, thus improving
the communities in which we all live; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the National West Point
Alumni, Incorporated, has been very successful in investing in the
youth of our nation through an educational scholarship fund; and

WHEREAS, the fund has increased its annual generosity from
first awarding $100.00 each to five college-bound students to its
current scholarship funding of $1,000.00 annually to three
college-bound high school graduates of academic excellence; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the organization has
successfully awarded over $35,000.00 in scholarships to
outstanding high school graduates, and has been able to donate
other monies to deserving students who are having financial
difficulties and demonstrate a need for assistance; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Randle has inspired the organization to be ever
mindful that achievement and progress are only possible through
unified and cooperative efforts, and demonstrates this leadership
on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Randle has been instrumental in orchestrating
numerous fundraising activities and works unceasingly to increase
the organizations' membership; and

WHEREAS, due to her leadership, the National West Point
Alumni membership has grown threefold since 1989; and

WHEREAS, numerous successful reunions in chapter states have
been held, as well as several Caribbean cruises; and

WHEREAS, the West Point Chapter is particularly proud to be
the host of the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Black-tie Banquet
held in West Point, and attributes the genesis of this idea to
Mrs. Randle; and

WHEREAS, it is the practice of this Legislature to recognize
and commend those citizens of this great state who give so much of
themselves to contribute to the common good and sense of community
so integral to the State of Mississippi:
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby recognize and commend Mrs. Johnnie Pearl Griffin Randle for her contributions to her community, nation and our youth through her untiring efforts as President of both the National West Point Alumni, Incorporated, and the West Point Chapter, and thank her for her vision and leadership on the occasion of the 2002 Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Black-tie Banquet in West Point, Mississippi.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Randle.