

By: Senator(s) Browning, Lee

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 16

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. JANE GREGORY UPON BEING AWARDED
2 THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE'S (NFL'S) TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jane Gregory, a dedicated educator for more
4 than 43 years, has made many outstanding contributions to the
5 field of education in the State of Mississippi; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory, a South Pontotoc High School math
7 teacher, recently received the nomination for "NFL Teacher of the
8 Year" by former student Wesley Walls, a 13-year National Football
9 League tight end, who currently plays for the Carolina Panthers;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, a 12-time "Star Teacher" and icon in the Mississippi
12 Teacher's Hall of Fame, Mrs. Gregory has continuously strived
13 throughout her teaching career to encourage success and instill
14 confidence not only within her students in the classroom, but also
15 within her four children: Vickie, Paul, Rhonda and Kathy; and

16 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory is valued greatly by both colleagues
17 and students alike, and she has been described by Pontotoc
18 County's Superintendent of Education characterizing her as being a
19 teacher with "great qualities, very competitive and a person who
20 cares about her students"; and

21 WHEREAS, twice retired, Mrs. Gregory, who began teaching at
22 South Pontotoc in 1986 after teaching in Memphis and Starkville,
23 still finds time to tutor students in math, and she possesses such
24 a keen devotion for the subject that she and her sister, also a
25 math teacher, have been known to stay awake all night working out
26 difficult math problems; and



27 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gregory was always in the classroom and
28 maintained a full schedule, in addition to rearing four children,
29 yet she never let her family or students go unattended; and

30 WHEREAS, on Tuesday, December 18, 2001, before a tearful
31 family, friends, church members and an applauding student body,
32 Mrs. Gregory was showered with praise in a surprise awards
33 ceremony at South Pontotoc, naming her "NFL Teacher of the Year";
34 and

35 WHEREAS, at the Carolina Panthers-Arizona Cardinals game on
36 Sunday, December 30, 2001, before a fan packed stadium and
37 national audience, Mrs. Gregory was presented with the official
38 "NFL Teacher of the Year" award by four-time Pro Bowl candidate
39 and nominating individual Wesley Walls; and

40 WHEREAS, as a result of receiving this honor, Mrs. Gregory
41 also received an all expenses paid trip to Hawaii for the Pro
42 Bowl, plus \$5,000.00 in cash and a Wesley Wall jersey, and
43 \$10,000.00 will be given to South Pontotoc High School in her
44 name, in addition to \$1,000.00 given to the school for her being a
45 finalist; and

46 WHEREAS, by being named "NFL Teacher of the Year," Mrs.
47 Gregory has brought pride and national recognition to her family,
48 fellow teachers throughout the state, county and to the State of
49 Mississippi; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Senate of the State of
51 Mississippi to recognize and pay special tribute to remarkable
52 educators such as Mrs. Jane Gregory, who continues to provide
53 outstanding educational inspirations to the youth of our state in
54 the public schools of Mississippi:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Jane
57 Gregory for her exceptional contributions to the field of
58 education in the State of Mississippi and extend to her our
59 heartiest wishes for success in all her future endeavors.



60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
61 furnished to Mrs. Jane Gregory, South Pontotoc High School and
62 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

