

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DR. DONALD L.
2 DURHAM, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE STENNIS SPACE CENTER NAVAL
3 METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY COMMAND, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS
4 RETIREMENT AFTER 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE.

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Donald L. Durham, as the Technical/Deputy
6 Director of the Stennis Space Center Naval Meteorology and
7 Oceanography Command, is the senior civilian manager and top
8 scientific advisor responsible for planning, coordination,
9 management, direction and administration of broad
10 multidisciplinary scientific, engineering and technical programs
11 of the command; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Durham's long and distinguished public service
13 is a matter of record: a native of McKinney, Kentucky; graduate
14 of Centre College, Danville, Kentucky, Bachelor of Science in
15 Physics and Mathematics; Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography, Texas A&M
16 University and Master of Science in Oceanography; came to
17 Mississippi in 1972 to work for the Army Corps of Engineers at the
18 Waterways Experiment Station; came to Stennis Space Center in 1978
19 as an Oceanographer with Naval Oceanographic and Atmospheric
20 Research Laboratory; named Technical/Deputy Director in 1989;
21 received the U.S. Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive
22 for 1998; received the Outstanding Contributions to Science Award
23 from the Mississippi Academy of Sciences in 1998; received the
24 Department of Defense Secretary of Defense Meritorious Civilian
25 Service Award; was Vice Chair of the Mississippi Science and
26 Technology Commission (sunset in 1996); member of External
27 Research Advisory Council, Mississippi State University; member of
28 the Mississippi Special Task Force for Economic Development



29 Planning (1996-2000); and founding board member of the Mississippi
30 Technology Alliance and current chair of the board's executive
31 committee; and

32 WHEREAS, Dr. Durham has supported all levels of education in
33 Mississippi, including funding and participating in the following
34 programs: Project Marco Polo, which provides an opportunity for
35 high school students and teachers to carry out oceanographic
36 survey activities aboard a naval ship; Operation Pathfinder, a
37 two-week workshop held in Biloxi for kindergarten-through-high
38 school teachers emphasizing marine biology, physical oceanography
39 and estuary ecosystems; Ocean Voyage, which provides an
40 opportunity for eight middle school science teachers to spend a
41 week aboard an oceanographic survey ship; Stimulating Teachers
42 About Resources for Broad Oceanographic Research Delivery
43 (STARBOARD), which features high school student and teacher
44 research partnerships using visualization processes and modeling
45 techniques depicting oceanographic data; Maury Project, which
46 provides oceanographic survey activities for
47 kindergarten-through-high school teachers aboard a naval research
48 ship; JASON Project, which features earth and marine science live
49 interactive field trip broadcasts for upper elementary and middle
50 school students in Biloxi, Clarksdale and Jackson for two weeks
51 during the year; Natural Partners, a partnership with the
52 Smithsonian Institute, to provide "museum without walls" distance
53 learning opportunities; Oceans Alive, a program that begins this
54 summer, will provide oceanographic activities for three high
55 school students and one teacher aboard one of our survey ships in
56 the Mississippi Sound; Personal Excellence Partnerships,
57 partnerships between the command and a school designed to improve
58 the school's effectiveness by working to improve education,
59 implement staff development and improve the physical appearance of
60 the campus. Through the partnerships, the Navy has relationships
61 with 47 schools in Mississippi and southeast Louisiana; Ocean



62 Science Mentoring Program, a partnership of the Naval Research,
63 Arlington, VA, the Naval Recruiting Command, Millington, TN, Naval
64 Oceanographic Office and The Naval Meteorology and Oceanography
65 Command, Stennis Space Center that pairs researchers with students
66 from Coahoma Community College to conduct ocean-related research.
67 Scholarships from the program were awarded to nine Coahoma CC
68 students in 2001; Center of Higher Learning, a Policy Board member
69 and sponsor of this state-supported, world-class center which
70 tailors area university programs to meet the needs of Stennis
71 Space Center resident agencies; SECNAV Engineering and Science
72 Residential Program, a six-week Secretary of the Navy program,
73 coordinated by the Center of Higher Learning and bringing a select
74 group of high school rising seniors to experience ocean science at
75 agencies along the Gulf Coast; Graduate Degree Program in
76 Hydrographic Science, in collaboration with the University of
77 Southern Mississippi's Department of Marine Science and the Center
78 of Higher Learning, the one-year degree educates students in the
79 theory and state-of-the-art practice of hydrographic surveying,
80 geodesy, data processing and analysis, and data management; and

81 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the long
82 and dedicated service of this public servant who has adopted
83 Mississippi as his home state:

84 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
85 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr. Donald
86 L. Durham, Deputy Director of the Stennis Space Center Naval
87 Meteorology and Oceanography Command, upon the occasion of his
88 retirement after 30 years of dedicated public service, and extend
89 the best wishes of the Senate to him and his family for continued
90 success in their future endeavors.

91 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
92 Dr. Durham, be forwarded to the Director of the Stennis Space
93 Center and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

