

By: Representative Malone

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 91

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MRS. WYNELL PARISH  
2 FOR HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS AS AN EDUCATOR.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Wynell Parish of Carthage, Mississippi, has set  
4 the benchmark of excellence in education for her contributions as  
5 a tirelessly devoted educator; and

6 WHEREAS, born September 30, 1946, the second child of Ross  
7 and Ruth Crane, Mrs. Parish was educated in the Leake County  
8 School System, where she graduated from Walnut Grove High School  
9 in 1964; and

10 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mrs. Parish  
11 enrolled at East Central Community College, earning an associate  
12 of arts degree in home economics education in 1966, and later  
13 earning her bachelor of science degree in home economics education  
14 with a certification in social studies from the University of  
15 Southern Mississippi in 1967; and

16 WHEREAS, commencing her teaching career in 1967, Mrs. Parish  
17 has not only taught in Mississippi, but has also shared her wealth  
18 of educational knowledge with students in Alabama, New York and  
19 Virginia; and

20 WHEREAS, it was while teaching in Alabama, that Mrs. Parish  
21 met her future husband, Wayne Parish, who at the time was in the  
22 United States Armed Services, and were later united in holy  
23 matrimony on January 30, 1970; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2001, Mrs. Parish, a 37-year veteran educator,  
25 undertook the task of teaching General Education Diploma (GED)  
26 courses at the Walnut Grove Youth Correctional Facility, raising

27 the program's standards to become one with one of the highest  
28 graduation rates in the Central District of Mississippi; and

29 WHEREAS, Mrs. Parish considers the Walnut Grove Youth  
30 Correctional Facility's GED program her greatest accomplishment,  
31 having graduated more than 300 inmates, she made positive steps to  
32 help the inmates attain their goal of earning a diploma with moral  
33 and spiritual support and prayer despite the circumstances  
34 surrounding their incarceration; and

35 WHEREAS, going above and beyond the call of classroom duty  
36 and fostering a spirit of unity amongst herself and her pupils,  
37 Mrs. Parish, after leaving the Walnut Grove facilities in 2003,  
38 continues to maintain strong ties with her former pupils,  
39 rendering assistance by any means possible; and

40 WHEREAS, after one of her students, Michael Baker, scored a  
41 27 on the ACT college entrance exam while in the Walnut Grove GED  
42 program, which gained media attention from WLBT News, upon his  
43 release, Mrs. Parish committed herself to enrolling him in  
44 college; and

45 WHEREAS, after having been denied entry at Northwest  
46 Mississippi Community College, Mrs. Parish drove Michael to her  
47 alma mater, the University of Southern Mississippi, where she  
48 assisted him in the admission and financial aid processes, and,  
49 negotiating on his behalf, was able to obtain admission to the  
50 university on full scholarship, where he is now in his second  
51 semester; and

52 WHEREAS, a member of Freeny Methodist Church, Mrs. Parish,  
53 who financially maintains and upkeeps the beauty of the local  
54 cemetery and who has compiled a register of its deceased, housed  
55 in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, enjoys  
56 reading, traveling, genealogical research and caring for her pets;  
57 and

58 WHEREAS, Mrs. Parish, who has received recognition from the  
59 American Red Cross and the United States Military Academy at West

60 Point for her volunteer work, enjoys the love, encouragement and  
61 support of her family, including her husband, Wayne Parish; son,  
62 Paul Parish; parents, Ross and Ruth Crane and brother, Billy Joe;  
63 and

64 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we salute the commitment  
65 and heroic display of humanitarianism, as exhibited by Mrs.  
66 Parish:

67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
68 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
69 recognize and commend Mrs. Wynell Parish for her outstanding  
70 contributions as an educator and extend our heartiest wishes for  
71 continued success in all her future endeavors.

72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
73 furnished to Mrs. Wynell Parish, *The Carthaginian* newspaper and to  
74 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.