

By: Senator(s) White, Frazier, Thomas

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MRS. ELIZABETH
2 MATTHEWS OF CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI, RECIPIENT OF THE 2004 BLUE CROSS
3 & BLUE SHIELD OF MISSISSIPPI AGELESS HERO AWARD IN THE CATEGORY OF
4 GOOD NEIGHBOR.

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews of Clinton, Mississippi, an
6 87-year-old who helped start the Magnolia Speech School, was
7 recently honored as a recipient of the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of
8 Mississippi Ageless Hero Award, which recognizes those over 65 who
9 demonstrate activity, vitality and accomplishment; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Matthews is the Central Region honoree in the
11 Good Neighbor category. She was one of 400 nominees for the
12 Seventh Annual Program. Judges chose 24 nominees ranging in age
13 from 66 to 106; and

14 WHEREAS, in honor of Mrs. Matthews, Blue Cross will donate
15 \$500 to Magnolia Speech School. Anne Sullivan, Director of
16 Magnolia Speech School, nominated her for the award; and

17 WHEREAS, Mrs. Matthews took steps to become a teacher and
18 started Magnolia Speech School after learning her son, Keith, was
19 deaf. She found the prospect of him leading an isolated life
20 apart from the hearing world to be unacceptable. Magnolia Speech
21 School, which began with seven students in her living room, has
22 become one of the country's leading schools for hearing impaired
23 and language-disordered children; and

24 WHEREAS, after serving as Director from 1956-1974, Elizabeth
25 retired, but has remained involved. She has served as Director
26 Emeritus, volunteered as a Teacher and raised funds for the
27 school. Mrs. Matthews raised \$10,000 in the fall of 2003 for the

28 school and she is also a very active member of Parkway Baptist
29 Church in Clinton; and

30 WHEREAS, Elizabeth Matthews has touched the lives of
31 thousands of people over the years, not only the deaf children she
32 educated and helped in so many ways, but also the parents of these
33 children. She is cherished as a friend, as well as an expert in
34 the field of deaf education; and

35 WHEREAS, it is with pride that we recognize the determination
36 of this Ageless Hero, who has contributed so much to her community
37 and to the State of Mississippi:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
39 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Mrs.
40 Elizabeth Matthews of Clinton, Mississippi, recipient of the 2004
41 Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ageless Hero Award in the
42 category of Good Neighbor, and extend to her the best wishes of
43 the Senate on her future endeavors.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
45 Mrs. Matthews and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.