

By: Senator(s) Lee (47th),  
Clarke, Hyde-Smith, Albritton,  
Jackson (11th), Jackson (15th)

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DR. CHRISTINA  
2 DANIELS OF THE PICAYUNE SCHOOL SYSTEM, MISSISSIPPI'S 2004 TEACHER  
3 OF THE YEAR.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Christina Daniels, a teacher at the Picayune  
5 Separate School District Center for Alternative Education, was  
6 selected by the State Department of Education as the "2004  
7 Mississippi Teacher of the Year" and honored at ceremonies held in  
8 Dr. Daniels' classroom on May 24, 2004; and

9 WHEREAS, her selection as the "2004 Mississippi Teacher of  
10 the Year" is a testament to her dedication and service to her  
11 students, her school and her community. Dr. Daniels'  
12 accomplishments are many, but perhaps her greatest accomplishment  
13 is the difference she makes in the lives of her students each day;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, her nine students at Picayune's Center for  
16 Alternative Education are often called at risk, hyperactive,  
17 attention deficit and occasionally violent. They are in her  
18 classroom for expulsion, outbursts in classes and other problems.  
19 But under her guidance, the third through sixth graders are coming  
20 to class every day, listening and learning; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Daniels received a \$5,000 salary supplement from  
22 the Education Department and \$1,500 from Entergy. Her school also  
23 received \$500 from Entergy. She will compete in the National  
24 Teacher of the Year Competition and is invited to the National  
25 Teacher of the Year Conference in Dallas, Texas; and

26 WHEREAS, teachers are nominated by their school districts and  
27 a committee reduces the number to four finalists; and

28           WHEREAS, this is Dr. Daniels first year as a Special  
29 Education Teacher in Picayune. She drives 75 miles daily from  
30 Petal, Mississippi, her hometown. Daniels began teaching in  
31 Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi. She also has worked in  
32 state prisons and for human service programs. She uses a variety  
33 of art forms to grab her students' attention, such as dancing and  
34 painting. Daniels coordinates the school's accelerated reader  
35 program and persuaded local businesses to donate prizes for  
36 students. She also was nominated for the Disney Excellence in  
37 Teaching Award; and

38           WHEREAS, as her students look back on their school years, Dr.  
39 Daniels just wants them to remember one thing about her class -  
40 "That I respected them"; and

41           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the  
42 commitment, enthusiasm and selfless devotion of this dedicated  
43 teacher, who has brought honor to her school, her community and to  
44 the State of Mississippi:

45           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
46 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr.  
47 Christina Daniels of the Picayune Municipal Separate School  
48 District Center for Alternative Education, upon being selected as  
49 Mississippi's 2004 Teacher of the Year, and extend to her and her  
50 students the best wishes of the Mississippi Senate for their  
51 future success.

52           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
53 Dr. Daniels, be forwarded to the Superintendent of the Picayune  
54 Municipal Separate School District, and be made available to the  
55 Capitol Press Corps.