

By: Senator(s) Gordon,
Robertson, Burton, Mettetal,
Albritton, Browning, Bryan,
Butler, Carmichael, Chamberlin,
Dawkins, Dearing, Frazier,
Harden, Jackson (11th), Jackson
(32nd), Jordan, Kirby, Lee
(35th), Lee (47th), Little,
Posey, Thames, Thomas, Tollison,
Turner, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 504

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING JUDY RHODES OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR 33 YEARS OF FAITHFUL
3 SERVICE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF MISSISSIPPI
4 UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

5 WHEREAS, Judy Rhodes has 33 years of service in education,
6 with 20 of those years served at the Mississippi Department of
7 Education, where she most recently served as Director of the
8 Office of Educational Accountability, providing annual
9 accountability reports to the Legislature, the Governor and the
10 people of Mississippi concerning the status of education in
11 Mississippi; and

12 WHEREAS, her legislative duties included reporting all state
13 and local financial and performance aspects of elementary and
14 secondary education, and coordinating with the Attorney General's
15 Office on legal issues affecting the department and local school
16 districts; and

17 WHEREAS, Judy Rhodes also provided oversight and management
18 of the Office of the Budget, which develops and manages the annual
19 education budget; the Offices of Internal Audit and Program
20 Monitoring, which provide internal audit services to the State
21 Board of Education and State Superintendent of Education, resolve
22 findings of annual school district audits, and provide annual
23 evaluation and monitoring assessments of department functions; and
24 the Office of Financial Accountability, which provides financial
25 and technical assistance to school districts and administers the
26 state's primary funding for school districts, including the
27 Minimum Foundation Program, Equity Funding, the Mississippi

28 Adequate Education Program and the Public Employees' Health
29 Insurance Program; and

30 WHEREAS, she previously served as Executive Director of the
31 Office of Job Development and Training, which included
32 responsibility for a federal employment and training program
33 service for at-risk youth, teen parents, displaced homemakers,
34 dislocated workers and economically disadvantaged Mississippians;
35 Chairman of the Board of the Mississippi Broadcasting Network and
36 served as a mathematics teacher; and

37 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
38 selfless dedication to public education in Mississippi and legacy
39 of public service that Judy Rhodes has demonstrated over her many
40 years of service:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
43 we do hereby commend Judy Rhodes of the Mississippi Department of
44 Education for her service, dedication and commitment to public
45 education in Mississippi, and extend to her, on behalf of the
46 Mississippi Legislature, our congratulations and best wishes upon
47 her retirement.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
49 Judy Rhodes, be forwarded to the State Board of Education and be
50 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.