

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Rules

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. L.C.  
2 DORSEY, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, DELTA RESEARCH AND CULTURAL INSTITUTE,  
3 MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AS  
4 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR 2005.

5 WHEREAS, on February 17, 2005, the Board of Trustees of State  
6 Institutions of Higher Learning recognized Dr. L.C. Dorsey,  
7 Associate Director, Delta Research and Cultural Institute,  
8 Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU), as the Black History  
9 Month Educator of the Year 2005; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Dorsey was born and raised in the Mississippi  
11 Delta to tenant farmer parents. She dropped out of Drew Colored  
12 School in the 11th grade to care for her family and later returned  
13 to school at the age of 31 to earn her GED. Today, she holds a  
14 Doctorate Degree in Social Work from Howard University in  
15 Washington, D.C., a Master's Degree in Social Work from State  
16 University of New York in Stony Brook, New York, and a Certificate  
17 in Health Systems Management from Johns Hopkins University,  
18 Baltimore, Maryland; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Dorsey's employment experiences include working  
20 as a laborer on several cotton plantations; as a local community  
21 organizer during the Civil Rights movement of the sixties; as a  
22 teacher in Operation Head Start (Bolivar County); and as a  
23 community organizer with Tuft's Delta Health Center (Bolivar  
24 County). She helped to organize and was selected Director of the  
25 427-acre farm cooperative (North Bolivar County Farm Cooperative,  
26 A.A.L.) which was developed by Tuft's Delta Health Center, Inc.,  
27 Mound Bayou, Mississippi; and

28           WHEREAS, in addition to community development activities, Dr.  
29 Dorsey has also been involved in the following social  
30 services/educational activities: Director of Social Services,  
31 Washington County Opportunities, Inc. (Greenville, Mississippi);  
32 Director of Administration and community advocate for prison  
33 reform, Mississippi Prisoners' Defense Committee; Associate  
34 Director, Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons (Jackson,  
35 Mississippi); Program Director, Offender Services, Lutheran Social  
36 Services (Washington, D.C.); Assistant to the Chief Health  
37 Officer, Memphis Health Center, Inc. (Memphis, Tennessee);  
38 Assistant Research Professor, School of Pharmacy, University of  
39 Mississippi (Goodman, Mississippi); Executive Director, Delta  
40 Health Center, Inc. (Mound Bayou, Mississippi); Assistant  
41 Professor, School of Social Work, Jackson State University  
42 (Jackson, Mississippi); Director, Mississippi Area Health  
43 Education Centers and Clinical Associate Professor, Department of  
44 Family Medicine, University of Mississippi Medical Center  
45 (Jackson, Mississippi); and

46           WHEREAS, in 2001, Dr. Dorsey joined the staff of the Delta  
47 Research and Cultural Institute (DRCI) at Mississippi Valley State  
48 University, where she has been very instrumental in leading the  
49 cause for diversity at the "Valley of Scholars"; and

50           WHEREAS, Dr Dorsey is recognized as one of Mississippi's  
51 living legends and is a true advocate of community involvement;  
52 and

53           WHEREAS, Dr. Dorsey has been recognized for her longtime  
54 civil rights activism and commitment to education by the following  
55 recognitions: recipient, The Lifetime Achievement Award,  
56 Mississippi Chapter, National Association of Social Workers,  
57 Jackson, Mississippi; recipient, The Harriet Tubman Award, The  
58 Magnolia Bar Association, Jackson, Mississippi; recipient, "Long  
59 Distance Runner Award," "Distinguished Social Award," The Jackson  
60 Chapter, National Association of Black Social Workers, Jackson,

61 Mississippi; induction into the Hall of Fame, National Museum of  
62 the Voting Rights, Selma, Alabama; recipient of Certificate of  
63 Appreciation Mississippi Community Foundation during the Freedom  
64 Summer 30th Year Anniversary; recipient of the Mississippi State  
65 Health Officers Award for Outstanding Services in Health  
66 Promotion; and a member of The President's Health Care Reform  
67 Professional's Review Committee, William Jefferson Clinton,  
68 President; and

69 WHEREAS, Dr. Dorsey is a renowned author of numerous books,  
70 including, but not limited, to *Southern Journey; Local People,*  
71 *This Little Light of Mine* and *Free at Last*; and

72 WHEREAS, Dr. Dorsey's commitment to academic and professional  
73 excellence and her willingness to share her own story to encourage  
74 others of all races and backgrounds to succeed makes her an  
75 extremely valuable resource at MVSU and for the State of  
76 Mississippi:

77 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
78 MISSISSIPPI, That we take great pride in recognizing Dr. L.C.  
79 Dorsey for her tireless efforts in the pursuit of excellence in  
80 education and commitment to positive advancement of diversity at  
81 MVSU, in the Delta Community, and in the State of Mississippi.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
83 Dr. Dorsey in recognition of her commitment to diversity and  
84 higher education, be forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State  
85 Institutions of Higher Learning and the President of Mississippi  
86 Valley State University, and be made available to the Capitol  
87 Press Corps.