

By: Senator(s) Harden, Butler, Dearing,
Jackson (15th), Jackson (11th), Jordan,
Simmons, Thomas, Williamson

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.