

By: Senator(s) Jackson (32nd), Witherspoon,
Barnett, Butler, Fillingane, Frazier, Jackson
(11th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 593

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE EDUCATIONAL AND
2 POLITICAL LEGACY OF CYNTHIA MAGEE AS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN
3 ELECTED TO A COUNTY OFFICE IN WALTHALL COUNTY AND THE FIRST FEMALE
4 TO SERVE AS SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION IN THE COUNTY'S 100-YEAR
5 HISTORY, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT.

6 WHEREAS, the professional and political legacy of Cynthia
7 Magee is a matter of record: As Principal of Tylertown High
8 School, Cynthia J. Magee had a string of firsts to her credit.
9 She served as the first African-American Principal of Tylertown
10 High School as well as being the first female Principal of the
11 school. In 2007, she was one of two African-American women to run
12 for County Superintendent of Education post, and was the first
13 African-American to land a spot in the runoff for that seat. The
14 election of Cynthia Magee was a historical moment in Walthall
15 County politics. Not only was Magee the first African-American
16 elected to a countywide office, she was also the first female to
17 serve as Superintendent of Education in the county's 100-year
18 history; and



19 WHEREAS, Cynthia J. Magee is a native Mississippian, born and
20 reared in Kemper County as one of 14 children born to Enos and
21 Alma Jackson. She is a graduate of Jackson State University,
22 having earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education
23 with an emphasis in Special Education. She also received her
24 Master's degree in School Administration from William Carey
25 College. Mrs. Magee, a citizen of Walthall County for nearly 40
26 years, has given much of that time in service through education.
27 She spent 16 years in the classroom as a Special Education
28 teacher; and

29 WHEREAS, she transitioned from teaching to administrative
30 roles, serving 22 years as a high school administrator. During
31 her tenure as Principal of Tylertown High School, Mrs. Magee
32 implemented a GED program, in-school suspension, and the Ramp-Up
33 to Math and Reading programs, she pushed for a junior ROTC
34 program, and she helped reorganize school-sponsored proms and
35 dances. Under her leadership, the school upgraded its sports
36 offerings for females, moving from slow-pitch to include
37 fast-pitch softball, and the school implemented soccer and
38 volleyball; and

39 WHEREAS, throughout her years of service, Mrs. Magee has
40 committed herself to advocating on behalf of children. Her
41 attitude of excellence has fostered positive change on the campus
42 she served and across the entire Walthall County School District.
43 She is a member of Brandon Bay United Methodist Church, a member



44 of the Board of Directors for the McComb and Walthall County Boys
45 and Girls Club, a member of the Rotary Club, and a member of the
46 Mississippi Association of Education/National Education
47 Association. Mrs. Magee is married to Mr. James E. Magee, Sr.
48 They have two adult children and four grandchildren; and

49 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we pay tribute to this
50 most public-spirited citizen of Mississippi with a record of
51 educational achievement and a legacy of leadership and dedication
52 to all in Mississippi:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
54 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
55 we do hereby recognize the educational and political legacy of
56 Cynthia Magee as the first African-American elected to a county
57 office in Walthall County and the first female to serve as
58 Superintendent of Education in the county's 100-year history, and
59 extend our best wishes to Mrs. Magee and her family on the
60 occasion of her retirement ceremony.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
62 Mrs. Cynthia J. Magee, forwarded to the State Board of Education
63 and the Walthall County Board of Education, and made available to
64 the Capitol Press Corps.

