

By: Representatives Gunn, Wilson

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 71

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING SUPERINTENDENT DR. RONNIE
2 MCGEHEE UPON THE MOMENTOUS OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
3 MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT AFTER 21 YEARS OF DEDICATED
4 SERVICE.

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Ronnie McGehee announced his retirement as
6 Superintendent for the Madison County School District, effective
7 as of June 2018, after his dedicated service in various positions
8 in the school district for 21 years, leaving behind a legacy of
9 remarkable educational leadership; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1977, Dr. McGehee began his illustrious career in
11 education in south Louisiana where he held a variety of positions
12 at schools, from coaching basketball to teaching science, and then
13 he moved to Mississippi, where he ultimately found his place in
14 the Madison County School District; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. McGehee spent three years as an assistant
16 principal and as a principal in Madison County before being
17 selected by former Superintendent Mike Kent as the Director of the
18 Building Program in 2000, and during that time, 14 schools were
19 built in the school district with Dr. McGehee leading the way, and



20 during his time as director, he oversaw a total of \$275 million of
21 facility construction; and

22 WHEREAS, as deputy superintendent during the Kent
23 administration, Dr. McGehee was an essential part of implementing
24 the National Merit summer school in Madison County, which has
25 grown into a year-long program that continues to produce countless
26 National Merit Scholars; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. McGehee, after serving one year as interim
28 superintendent, was elected in 2011 to serve as Superintendent of
29 the Madison County School District, and during his administration
30 there was an impactful shift towards a greater emphasis on
31 improving academics in the school district; and

32 WHEREAS, Dr. McGehee's leadership experience, which he gained
33 throughout his remarkable career in education, proved to be a
34 positive asset for his transition to the office of superintendent,
35 and this experience, coupled with his visionary leadership, has
36 worked in tandem to provide students with a paramount educational
37 system with high standards and that affords students the
38 opportunity to avail themselves of a multitude of supplemental
39 programs and services that enrich their academic growth; and

40 WHEREAS, with an eagerness to formulate ideas that would
41 improve the quality of education for students in Madison County,
42 Dr. McGehee created a plan that expanded the school district's
43 access to the ACT so that now every junior completes the ACT
44 during school hours, and because Dr. McGehee's plan was



45 tremendously successful, he had the opportunity to work with state
46 leaders to replicate his plan across the state; and

47 WHEREAS, during Dr. McGehee's tenure as superintendent, there
48 were additional improvements in the school district, such as
49 investing in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and
50 Mathematics) program, embracing the use of electronic devices such
51 as cell phones and computers in school, implementing "Bring Your
52 Own Device" policies, and investing in a 1:1 initiative that
53 supplied high school students with laptops for educational use;
54 and

55 WHEREAS, in addition to receiving recognition for the school
56 district acquiring an "A" accountability rating and producing
57 countless National Merit Scholars, Dr. McGehee also received
58 recognition for helping the school district maintain a safe and
59 secure environment; and

60 WHEREAS, during these tumultuous times, Dr. McGehee has kept
61 a focus on forming meaningful relationships with students because
62 he understood how those relationships could help the faculty and
63 administration, as well as those students, achieve excellence; and

64 WHEREAS, Dr. McGehee's emphasis on improving academics in the
65 Madison County School District is a true testament of his
66 dedication and eagerness to help the students of Madison County
67 achieve their fullest potential and of his positive impact on the
68 quality of education in Madison County, and Mississippi; and



69 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
70 and commend great Mississippians such as Superintendent Dr. Ronnie
71 McGehee, who strive to improve the quality of education so that
72 students are able to achieve their goals, and who have brought
73 honor to their school district, community and to the State of
74 Mississippi:

75 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
76 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
77 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Superintendent Dr. Ronnie
78 McGehee upon the occasion of his retirement from the Madison
79 County School District after 21 years of dedicated service, for
80 leaving his "mark of excellence" on education in Madison County
81 and in Mississippi, and extend sincere wishes for his continued
82 success in his lighter days to come.

83 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
84 furnished to Superintendent Dr. Ronnie McGehee, the president of
85 the board of Madison County School District, and to the members of
86 the Capitol Press Corps.

