

By: Representative Paden

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE TRI-COUNTY
2 WORKFORCE ALLIANCE UPON BEING NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE 2017
3 NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR AWARD BY THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF
4 NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI.

5 WHEREAS, the Tri-County Workforce Alliance (TCWA), which
6 serves Bolivar, Coahoma and Quitman Counties and promotes
7 long-term economic and community development by building a
8 competitive healthy workforce through job training, will be
9 honored by the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi as
10 the 2017 Nonprofit of the Year Award recipient, during the
11 foundation's 18th Crystal Ball, held on Saturday, January 20,
12 2017; and

13 WHEREAS, a nonprofit community-based organization that seeks
14 to improve the economic livelihoods and well-being of families
15 living in rural and economically vulnerable communities, the
16 Tri-County Workforce Alliance has expanded its work footprint by
17 adding Sunflower and Tallahatchie Counties to the genesis of its
18 academic outreach of offering middle school, high school and young



19 adult health education and workforce development programs embedded
20 in larger networks to address socioeconomic challenges; and

21 WHEREAS, led by director, Josephine Rhymes, TCWA focuses on
22 human resource development in health-related fields, building
23 educational and career pathways, reducing the healthcare workforce
24 shortage and advancing local capacity to address health
25 disparities; and

26 WHEREAS, since its inception, TCWA has leveraged more than
27 \$1.5 million from foundations, local, state and federal government
28 and private sector funds to serve more than 5,000 individuals
29 classified as Future Workforce members through such programs as
30 the Middle School Academy for Science, Math and Reading for
31 Potential Health Care Professions, the High School Mentorship
32 Program in Health Care Profession, High School Health Councils,
33 Problem Solving for Better Health workshops and Ready, Set, Go
34 summer camps; and

35 WHEREAS, the Middle School Academy for Science, Math, and
36 Reading for Potential Health Care Professionals, first implemented
37 in 2011 to serve students in Grades 6 through 8, provides academic
38 enrichment and professional development programming, including
39 Saturday events during the academic year and a multi-week summer
40 institute which provides opportunities for students to learn about
41 the various fields of health and necessary skill sets for those
42 fields; and



43 WHEREAS, the High School Mentorship Program in Health Care
44 Professions, started in 2009, which now serves students in Grades
45 9 through 12 from all five of the service counties, provides
46 academic support, college visits, experiential learning
47 opportunities and positive social networks for youth who are
48 interested in attending college and pursuing employment in health
49 care professions by affording those students the opportunity to
50 engage in job shadowing with health care professionals; and

51 WHEREAS, through its collaboration with the New Pathway to
52 Health and Opportunity Initiative, which includes the Aaron E.
53 Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc., Mississippi Hospital
54 Association Foundation, Dreyfus Health Foundation of the Rogosin
55 Institute and its Center for Health Action and Policy, and the
56 University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies and its
57 academic minor in Society and Health, TCWA positions high school
58 seniors to be eligible to take classes to become certified nursing
59 assistants, phlebotomists or echocardiogram technicians through
60 community colleges with the help of the Mississippi Hospital
61 Association Foundation, and to expand academic course work through
62 dual enrollment classes; and

63 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
64 recognize and commend the outstanding efforts of such devoted
65 organizations as the Tri-County Workforce Alliance, which has
66 committed countless resources to the advancement of the well-being
67 of families through the promotion of education and job training:



68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
70 commend and congratulate the Tri-County Workforce Alliance upon
71 being named recipient of the 2017 Nonprofit of the Year Award by
72 the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
74 furnished to Mrs. Josephine Rhymes, on behalf of the Tri-County
75 Workforce Alliance and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

