

By: Representative McCarty

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 64

1 A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND COMMENDING THE SUCCESS OF
2 WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION IN GROWING THE
3 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI'S TEACHER WORKFORCE IN AN UNMITIGATED EFFORT
4 TO REDUCE TEACHER SHORTAGES THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

5 WHEREAS, since its original inception in 1892 under the
6 moniker of the Pearl River Boarding School, and three subsequent
7 name changes aligned with the respective aims and missions of its
8 identity, William Carey University, the designated nomenclature
9 assigned to the institution in 1954, has served as a premier
10 bastion of educational excellence for South Mississippi, as
11 indicated by the elite success of its distinguished leadership,
12 staff, alumni and current student body; and

13 WHEREAS, in a time in our state's modern history when teacher
14 retention was on a rapid decline and fewer college prospects were
15 interested in the profession, William Carey University's School of
16 Education sought to change the trajectory of education by
17 modifying its approach to teacher preparation by engaging and
18 inspiring students who aspired to become future educators; and



19 WHEREAS, home to the Program of Research and Evaluation for
20 Public Schools (PREPS), Inc., a statewide educational consortium
21 that strives to provide Mississippi K-12 school districts with the
22 latest in research to support student success and teacher and
23 administrator effectiveness, William Carey University's School of
24 Education has grown by 700 students over the past 8 years, with
25 the last three years data reflecting a 240% growth in the
26 undergraduate programs in teacher education, which accounts for
27 Fall 2021 enrollment total education of 1,806 students; and

28 WHEREAS, having graduated an average of 500 students per year
29 from the School of Education, the university's 2021 Summer
30 Commencement exercises, introduced 593 new baccalaureate degree
31 holders in education; and

32 WHEREAS, in addition to hosting the Pine Belt
33 superintendents, elementary principals, middle school principals
34 and high school principals on its campus, William Carey University
35 hosted the state's first statewide teacher shortage conference in
36 2021, and through affiliated partnerships with the Kellogg
37 Foundation and the Mississippi Department of Education, which
38 provided grants for the Mississippi Teacher Residency program, the
39 School of Education placed 421 first-year alternate route interns
40 in Mississippi schools in the fall of 2021; and

41 WHEREAS, in its zealous commitment to promote and improve the
42 education profession within the State of Mississippi by providing
43 knowledgeable, skilled and highly qualified teachers to school



44 districts with teacher shortages, the William Carey University
45 School of Education developed a "Grow Your Own" teacher
46 preparation program, a three-year program which allows aspiring
47 educators in the program to complete their teacher education
48 degree; and

49 WHEREAS, by partnering with school districts across the state
50 to send teachers back to their school district to teach, William
51 Carey University's School of Education has become the leading
52 education preparation program among all public and private
53 universities and colleges in the State of Mississippi; and

54 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
55 recognize and commend the exceptional work of our state's
56 collegiate institutions to shift the dynamic of the status quo to
57 ensure that our children are provided with the best education
58 professionals who are equipped with the instructional tools and
59 prowess to change the landscape of the teaching and grooming
60 scholars under their tutelage for success, as demonstrated by the
61 William Carey University School of Education:

62 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
63 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
64 acknowledge and commend the success of William Carey University's
65 School of Education in growing the State of Mississippi's teacher
66 workforce in an unmitigated effort to reduce teacher shortages
67 throughout the state.



68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
69 furnished to the Board of Trustees and President of William Carey
70 University, the Dean of the School of Education and to the members
71 of the Capitol Press Corps.

