

By: Representative Robinson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 95

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MRS. ANN TUCKER FOR
2 HER OUTSTANDING 62-YEAR TEACHING CAREER.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ann Tucker, with her extraordinary teaching
4 career that has spanned 62 years, is believed to be the
5 longest-serving public school teacher in the State of Mississippi,
6 and she is still making lesson plans, not retirement plans, which
7 is a true testament to her love of teaching and dedication to her
8 students; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker has taught at Northeast Jones High
10 School in Laurel, Mississippi, since the school opened in August
11 1965, and some of her students who went on to have teaching
12 careers are now long retired; and

13 WHEREAS, for over six decades, Mrs. Tucker has been in
14 Building 1, Classroom 12, teaching English to students in Grades 9
15 through 12, and she was also the Beta Club sponsor for 20-plus
16 years; and

17 WHEREAS, during her outstanding tenure, Mrs. Tucker taught a
18 longtime United States Congresswoman, State Auditor Shad White,



19 Kenny Payne, who starred for the Tigers' basketball team before
20 leading Louisville to the NCAA championship in 1983, and going on
21 to the NBA, HGTV star Erin Rasberry Napier, and countless other
22 people who have served in leadership positions in the community or
23 gone on to other successful endeavors; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker graduated from Glade High School and
25 Jones County Junior College before getting her degree in
26 elementary education from the University of Southern Mississippi,
27 and after college, she first went to work at Ovet Elementary,
28 where classes were so small that two grades were in one classroom,
29 and that is where she developed a love for her profession, and
30 then she taught at Myrick High School before joining Northeast
31 Jones High School; and

32 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker comes from a long line of teachers,
33 including her mother, Laura Annis Strickland Touchstone, who
34 taught at Ellisville, Glade and Myrick, and she and her husband of
35 62 years, Mack, have two daughters who dabble in the family
36 business as well: Amy Blue, who is a first-grade assistant at
37 East Jones Elementary, and Phyllis Wagon, who is retired from the
38 staff development department at Ellisville State School, and now
39 serves as a substitute teacher at Northeast Jones; and

40 WHEREAS, currently, Mrs. Tucker is teaching special classes
41 on Mississippi writers and African-American writers, and she still
42 grades for grammar, and she also teaches oral communication; and



43 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker lives by the short phrase written on the
44 board in her room, "Attitude is Everything," and even after over
45 60 years in the teaching profession, she continues to prepare
46 students for their future because she understands that education
47 is the foundation for whatever her students might choose to do
48 after high school; and

49 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker is content on the Myrick farm that has
50 been in her family for seven generations, where she works in the
51 yard and raises Australian shepherds, but she is not ready to be
52 there full-time, as she has a high energy level and there are
53 still students who need encouragement, guidance and the benefit of
54 her wisdom; and

55 WHEREAS, when asked about the secret to her longevity, Mrs.
56 Tucker believes that making a difference in someone's life is a
57 daily opportunity, and that seeing a child succeed energizes her,
58 and giving someone a chance at a better life is a gift, and God
59 has truly blessed her; and

60 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tucker and her husband are longtime members of
61 Tuckers Crossing Baptist Church, where she served on the board of
62 trustees for 15 years, and she served on the board of trustees for
63 Jones County Junior College for 15 years, on the Human Rights
64 Committee at Ellisville State School and as a member of the Jones
65 County Cattlemen's Association; and

66 WHEREAS, with a teaching approach that is indeed timeless,
67 Mrs. Tucker is an outstanding example of a teacher committed to



68 her students and profession, and she has taught and influenced
69 thousands of students in her career and served as a model mentor
70 for many young educators; and

71 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
72 recognize and commend outstanding Mississippi teachers, especially
73 those such as Mrs. Ann Tucker, whose dedication to her students
74 brings great honor to Northeast Jones High School, her community,
75 and the State of Mississippi:

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
77 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
78 recognize and commend Mrs. Ann Tucker for her outstanding 62-year
79 teaching career, and extend to her best wishes for continued
80 excellence in education.

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
82 furnished to Mrs. Ann Tucker and to the members of the Capitol
83 Press Corps.

