

By: Senator(s) Boyd, Barnett, Hill

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 52

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING TARA DENEVAN OF OXFORD AS THE
2 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 2022 "PARENT OF THE YEAR".

3 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)
4 announced that the 2022 Mississippi "Parent of the Year" is Tara
5 Denevan, a mother of two students in the Oxford School District;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Tara Denevan was nominated by the Oxford school
8 district and is described as an amazing overcomer, innovator and a
9 strong supporter of education for all students and teachers. Her
10 enthusiasm, love and passion for helping others is a gift she
11 gives freely. Tara always finds time to volunteer for the school
12 district and the community; and

13 WHEREAS, in the Oxford community, Tara has connected with
14 many local businesses to help with projects that benefit both the
15 students and teachers. She believes it is important to be
16 involved in your children's education because students with
17 involved parents tend to make better grades, exemplify better
18 behavior in the classroom, and score higher on tests. "Being so



19 involved with the district and the community has shown my children
20 the true meaning of 'giving back' and has taught them compassion
21 and awareness of others," says Denevan, who is also involved with
22 her children's classmates. Tara shows all children they are
23 loved, celebrated and supported, which is vital to a positive
24 learning experience; and

25 WHEREAS, her participation in various service-oriented
26 activities and organizations have led to student success. Serving
27 as Fundraising Chair in 2017-2018, she led a team of parents in
28 raising a total of \$55,000.00 from ticket sales. A portion of the
29 proceeds were used to purchase STEM bins for Bramlett Elementary
30 classrooms; and

31 WHEREAS, with a giving heart, Tara has served as the Lovepack
32 Chair and Food Drive Chair for several schools in the district.
33 She was responsible for collecting food for the food pantry,
34 organizing and delivering food items to those in need. Among many
35 of her positions, she has served as: PTO Vice-President, Kindness
36 Week Coordinator, Fundraising Chair, Fun Friday Coordinator, PTO
37 Board member and currently PTO President. One of her dearest
38 projects, as of today, is serving as Charger Christmas Kids
39 Founder. This project provides Christmas gifts to needy students
40 in the school district; and

41 WHEREAS, research has repeatedly shown that parental
42 involvement is a critical factor in determining the academic
43 success of students. As part of the annual Parent of the Year



44 Program, MDE asks each district to select an outstanding parent
45 who has made a significant impact on school improvement efforts in
46 the school district; and

47 WHEREAS, we join the education community in Mississippi and
48 the citizens of Oxford in commending an outstanding parent whose
49 receipt of this award has brought honor to her school, her
50 community and to the State of Mississippi:

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
52 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize Tara Denevan of Oxford as
53 the Mississippi Department of Education 2022 "Parent of the Year"
54 and extend to Tara and her family our best wishes for supporting
55 continued school improvement efforts.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
57 Tara Denevan and her family, forwarded to the Superintendent and
58 Board of Trustees of the Oxford School District and be made
59 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

