

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.

