

By: Senator(s) Gordon,  
Robertson, Burton, Mettetal,  
Albritton, Browning, Bryan,  
Butler, Carmichael, Chamberlin,  
Dawkins, Dearing, Frazier,  
Harden, Jackson (11th), Jackson  
(32nd), Jordan, Kirby, Lee  
(35th), Lee (47th), Little,  
Posey, Thames, Thomas, Tollison,  
Turner, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 504

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING JUDY RHODES OF THE  
2 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR 33 YEARS OF FAITHFUL  
3 SERVICE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION AND THE BOYS AND GIRLS OF MISSISSIPPI  
4 UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

5 WHEREAS, Judy Rhodes has 33 years of service in education,  
6 with 20 of those years served at the Mississippi Department of  
7 Education, where she most recently served as Director of the  
8 Office of Educational Accountability, providing annual  
9 accountability reports to the Legislature, the Governor and the  
10 people of Mississippi concerning the status of education in  
11 Mississippi; and

12 WHEREAS, her legislative duties included reporting all state  
13 and local financial and performance aspects of elementary and  
14 secondary education, and coordinating with the Attorney General's  
15 Office on legal issues affecting the department and local school  
16 districts; and

17 WHEREAS, Judy Rhodes also provided oversight and management  
18 of the Office of the Budget, which develops and manages the annual  
19 education budget; the Offices of Internal Audit and Program  
20 Monitoring, which provide internal audit services to the State  
21 Board of Education and State Superintendent of Education, resolve  
22 findings of annual school district audits, and provide annual  
23 evaluation and monitoring assessments of department functions; and  
24 the Office of Financial Accountability, which provides financial  
25 and technical assistance to school districts and administers the  
26 state's primary funding for school districts, including the  
27 Minimum Foundation Program, Equity Funding, the Mississippi

28 Adequate Education Program and the Public Employees' Health  
29 Insurance Program; and

30 WHEREAS, she previously served as Executive Director of the  
31 Office of Job Development and Training, which included  
32 responsibility for a federal employment and training program  
33 service for at-risk youth, teen parents, displaced homemakers,  
34 dislocated workers and economically disadvantaged Mississippians;  
35 Chairman of the Board of the Mississippi Broadcasting Network and  
36 served as a mathematics teacher; and

37 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the  
38 selfless dedication to public education in Mississippi and legacy  
39 of public service that Judy Rhodes has demonstrated over her many  
40 years of service:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
42 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
43 we do hereby commend Judy Rhodes of the Mississippi Department of  
44 Education for her service, dedication and commitment to public  
45 education in Mississippi, and extend to her, on behalf of the  
46 Mississippi Legislature, our congratulations and best wishes upon  
47 her retirement.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
49 Judy Rhodes, be forwarded to the State Board of Education and be  
50 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.