

By: Representatives Parker, Pierce, Hamilton To: Rules
(109th)

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 8

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING BEVERLY JANET SMITH FOR HER MANY
2 CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICE TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND
3 CONGRATULATING HER UPON HER RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC SERVICE.

4 WHEREAS, Beverly Janet Smith has faithfully served the
5 citizens of Lucedale and George County for over 33 years as county
6 librarian, and it is with appreciation that we recognize her
7 dedication and devotion upon her retirement on January 28, 2005;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, a native of Mount Olive, Mississippi, Mrs. Smith
10 graduated in 1968 from Jones Junior College and entered the School
11 of Library Science at the University of Southern Mississippi
12 (USM); and

13 WHEREAS, while attending USM, Mrs. Smith became engaged to
14 Richard Smith and worked at the Clarksdale Public Library as a
15 summer intern for the Mississippi Library Commission; and

16 WHEREAS, after graduating from USM, Mrs. Smith worked at the
17 Petal High School Library before becoming librarian at the George
18 County Public Library on June 9, 1971, the first librarian at that
19 facility to hold a university degree in library science; and

20 WHEREAS, after Mrs. Smith's employment at the George County
21 Library, circulation increased from 300 to 1,500 in the first
22 month and has continuously grown over the course of her tenure;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, in 1977, Mrs. Smith entered graduate school at USM
25 finishing the program 18 months later with a master of library
26 science degree; and

27 WHEREAS, having worked to organize a local chapter of Friends
28 of the Library, Mrs. Smith assisted in starting the first
29 "Shakespeare in the Park" in 1991, and is credited with helping
30 the library win a National Public Relations Award for "The Little
31 Library That Could"; and

32 WHEREAS, named George County Business Woman of the Year in
33 1999, Mrs. Smith has had the privilege of meeting, in her
34 professional life, Isacc Asminov, John Grisham, Morgan Freeman and
35 Jerry Clower; and

36 WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith has plans, during her retirement, to
37 spend quality time with her daughter, Brandy; granddaughters,
38 Claire and Anna; mother, Merle; sister and friends; and

39 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
40 recognize and commend excellence in such outstanding individuals
41 as Mrs. Smith, whose dedication and longtime commitment to the
42 Lucedale-George County Library and the Jackson-George Regional
43 Library System has become a benchmark of excellence and
44 achievement:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
46 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
47 commend Mrs. Beverly Janet Smith for her dedicated and commendable
48 service as manager of the Lucedale-George County Library for over
49 33 years and extend our heartiest wishes for success in all her
50 future endeavors.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
52 furnished to Mrs. Janet Smith, the Jackson-George Regional Library
53 System, the Lucedale-George County Library and to the members of
54 the Capitol Press Corps.