

By: Senator(s) Carmichael

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 591

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MRS.
2 GLORIA WILLIAMS, SUPERVISOR OF EDUCATION AT EAST MISSISSIPPI
3 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, FOR BEING SELECTED AS THE GEO NORTH AMERICA
4 "EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR" FOR 2004.

5 WHEREAS, in the four years that Gloria Williams has been
6 employed at the East Mississippi Correctional Facility (EMCF)
7 located in Meridian, Mississippi, the last two years as the
8 Supervisor of Education, the department has been transformed
9 through her energy and creativity, and its effects have been felt
10 throughout the whole facility; and

11 WHEREAS, GEO Group, Inc., is under contract with the
12 Mississippi Department of Corrections to manage and operate the
13 East Mississippi Correctional Facility, which houses up to 875
14 medium security and mental health adult male inmates, an increase
15 of 125 inmates from the previous contract year; and

16 WHEREAS, Mrs. Williams' efforts have brought special
17 recognition to the Education Department as well as the entire
18 facility; she has shown that she not only is an outstanding
19 educator, teacher and supervisor, but she is very compassionate
20 and has a genuine concern for the inmates of this facility. Her
21 mission is to provide the best educational opportunities for the
22 inmates, who have the utmost respect for her, and often refer to
23 her as "a mother figure"; and

24 WHEREAS, the most impressive element of her accomplishments
25 is that she attained these high standards while serving a
26 population that is 95% special needs. EMCF is a mental health
27 correctional facility. So while she is working with individuals

28 who have an average third grade education, they also have a mental
29 disorder diagnosis; and

30 WHEREAS, since Mrs. Williams has been at EMCF, she has
31 implemented or directly contributed to the following successes:
32 Academic Need Assessment established; added a Special Education
33 Teacher and ABE Teacher; implemented a three-month Substance Abuse
34 Program; established an accelerated GED class; record number of
35 inmates received their GED; one of the highest rates of GED
36 passing scores for the State of Mississippi; record number of
37 students enrolled in one or more educational program (over 300
38 offered daily); more inmates are completing course work sponsored
39 by Meridian Community College; "A" custody inmates visit the
40 library at designated times to read at their leisure; strong
41 community involvement; special recognition for the department:
42 scored 100% from ACA and state accreditation (it was noted that
43 the department was one of the best); Informational Fair geared
44 toward helping the "soon to be released" to re-adjust to society;
45 graduation ceremonies mirroring real high school and college
46 graduations; Fatherhood Initiative Program; Education Appreciation
47 Week; and art contests with the assistance of local art dealers
48 and instructors from local school districts with the art work
49 displayed at the local public library, junior college and local
50 schools; and

51 WHEREAS, it is with pride that we recognize this
52 accomplishment by a dedicated employee who has inspired inmates
53 and employees alike and has set high standards for other
54 Mississippians to follow:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
57 we do hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Gloria Williams,
58 Supervisor of Education at East Mississippi Correctional Facility,
59 for being selected as the GEO Group, Inc., (North America)
60 "Employee of the Year" for 2004, and extend to her and her family

61 the best wishes of the Legislature in her future endeavors at
62 EMCF.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
64 Mrs. Gloria Williams, be forwarded to Dr. George Zoley, Chairman
65 of the Board and CEO of GEO Group, Inc., and be made available to
66 the Capitol Press Corps.