

By: Senator(s) Turner, Dawkins, Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING RICHARD KENNARD OF
2 STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI, FOR BEING NAMED A DISTINGUISHED FINALIST
3 IN THE 2007 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM.

4 WHEREAS, Richard Kennard of Starkville, Mississippi, has been
5 recognized as one of the top youth volunteers in Mississippi by
6 being named a Distinguished Finalist in the 12th Annual Prudential
7 Spirit of Community Awards; and

8 WHEREAS, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created
9 in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National
10 Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), are designed
11 to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to
12 others, and to encourage young Americans of all backgrounds to
13 contribute to their communities; and

14 WHEREAS, Richard Kennard, 16, of Starkville, a Sophomore at
15 Starkville High School, has been soliciting donations of books,
16 snack foods and cleaning materials for several years for a Ronald
17 McDonald House in Memphis. Richard also visits the house
18 regularly, not only to deliver the donations, but also to cook
19 meals for the families staying there and to "hang out" with the
20 kids who are undergoing medical treatment; and

21 WHEREAS, as a Distinguished Finalist in this year's program,
22 Richard Kennard will receive an engraved bronze medallion at a
23 local ceremony. Students like Richard Kennard represent the best
24 of America's youth, and are role models to their peers and their
25 communities; and

26 WHEREAS, "People as caring and committed as these young
27 students are critical to the future of our neighborhoods, our

28 cities and our nation," said Arthur Ryan, Chairman and CEO of
29 Prudential. "By recognizing these honorees, we hope to encourage
30 other young people - our future leaders - and all Americans to
31 think more about the value and importance of volunteering in their
32 communities; and

33 WHEREAS, the success of the State of Mississippi, the
34 strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American
35 society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young
36 people like Richard Kennard, who use their considerable talents
37 and resources to serve others:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
39 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Richard
40 Kennard of Starkville High School as a recipient of a Prudential
41 Spirit of Community Award, recognizing his outstanding record of
42 volunteer service, peer leadership and community spirit, and
43 extend the best wishes of the Senate for his continued success.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
45 Richard Kennard, be forwarded to the Principal of Starkville High
46 School and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.