

Chapter No. 2165
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SENATE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 590

Originated in Senate

Jennid Hughes Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 590

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF BELMONT, MISSISSIPPI, AS ONE OF BUSINESS-WEEK'S "BEST PLACES IN AMERICA TO RAISE KIDS."

WHEREAS, *Bloomberg Business Week* magazine confirmed what Belmont residents have known all along: the town is a great place to live and raise kids; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Belmont was the Mississippi runner-up in *Business Week's* "Best Places in America to Raise Kids"; and

WHEREAS, no matter how hard you try, raising a family is complicated, not to mention expensive. For parents juggling concerns about their children's safety, schools, expenses, and after-school activities and who also need to go to work on top of all this living in the right place won't solve all problems, but it can offer their children more opportunities and Enhance the family's Lifestyle. In the fifth annual ranking of "Best Places to Raise Kids," Bloomberg and Businessweek.com shifted its focus from large, urbanized places to smaller towns and cities. Using 2010 data they evaluated a total of 5,418 locations nationwide with populations larger than the state median but no larger than 50,000, considers only locations where the median income is within 20 percent of the state's median. The rankings put the most weight on school performance and the number of schools, crime statistics, and cost of living. Other factors included job growth, air quality, ethnic diversity, and access to recreational amenities within the county, such as parks, zoos, theaters, and museums; and

WHEREAS, the places selected were neither rich suburbs nor havens for luxury living rather, these are communities inhabited mostly by middle-income earners that have good public schools, low crime, and resources to keep the family entertained on weekends; and

WHEREAS, Belmont came in second to Senatobia in Mississippi, while Tinley Park, Illinois, was the overall winner. With a population of less than 2,000 according to the latest United States Census data, Belmont boasted more than 3,000 manufacturing jobs, largely in manufactured housing. Now manufacturing employment is in the hundreds, with Tiffin Motor Homes its largest employer; and

WHEREAS, the Tishomingo County Board of Supervisors works hard to back up the development foundation's efforts while also pursuing economic development projects on its own. But the community's schools are still the top priority for parents in determining how well a community can meet the family's needs; and

WHEREAS, high expectations and a safe, supportive community are among the advantages to give the children of Belmont from a positive environment; and it is with great pride that we congratulate the citizens of this Tishomingo County community for being honored as one of America's best, affordable places for family life, which is part of the fabric of the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby recognize the Town of Belmont, Mississippi, as one of *Business-Week's* "Best Places in America to Raise Kids" and extend our congratulations to the citizens of this community for this designation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Belmont and the

Board of Supervisors of Tishomingo County and made available to
the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
February 9, 2011



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
February 16, 2011



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES