

Chapter No. 2101  
14/SS26/R1130  
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**SENATE  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION  
No. 586**

Originated in Senate Liz Welch Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 586

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING JIM HILL HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER TRACEE THOMPSON UPON RECEIVING THE 2013 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD.

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2014, Tracee Thompson, an English teacher at Jim Hill High School in Jackson, Mississippi, received a big surprise when she was honored during a school-wide assembly in order to present her with the nationally known Milken Educator Award for 2013 and a \$25,000.00 unrestricted cash prize teaching incentive. Tracee found out the real purpose of the gathering as Governor Phil Bryant and State Superintendent Cary Wright attended the ceremony naming her one of only 34 national recipients of this prestigious award; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious Milken Educator Award will recognize the exceptional work of an educator as a model for the state and nation in a surprise ceremony at the recipient's school. Along with a huge rally of support from his or her school, the recipient will receive a \$25,000.00 no-strings-attached check from the Milken Family Foundation; and

WHEREAS, after receiving her award and congratulations from district, city and state leaders, and attempting to recover from the shock of winning, Thompson told those assembled, "Education is my life. My desire, my only goal, is for all of you to be successful," she said; and

WHEREAS, Thompson, in her 11th year of teaching, tutors three days a week, participates on several committees, and is known for holding her students accountable; and

WHEREAS, candidates, typically early- or mid-career teachers, are not formally nominated and don't apply for the award. Instead, they are recommended by Department of Education blue ribbon committees in participating states. The awards are intended to encourage good teachers to stay in the profession and to encourage others to teach; and

WHEREAS, founded by Mr. Lowell Milken to celebrate, promote and stimulate commendable K-12 educators, and to publicly demonstrate that excellence in education must be acknowledged and rewarded, the Milken Educator Awards program strives to communicate to parents and policymakers the established truth that the quality of the educator is the most important factor in determining student achievement; and

WHEREAS, since 1987, the Milken Family Foundation has devoted more than \$136 Million in funding to the Milken Educator Awards, including over \$64 Million in individual Awards to nearly 2,600

recipients plus powerful professional development opportunities and networking with leading education stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we commend this dedicated educator who is a wonderful example for her profession and for all citizens 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 and congratulate Jim Hill High School English Teacher Tracee Thompson upon her receipt of the prestigious 2013 Milken Educator Award and extend the best wishes of the Legislature to Tracee and her family on this high honor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Tracee Thompson, forwarded to the Board of Trustees of the Jackson School District and the State Superintendent of Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE  
March 7, 2014

  
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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
March 14, 2014

  
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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES