

By Senator Alexander

17-1221A-06

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Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring Samuel Bennett as the
2005 Florida Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, Samuel Bennett left his job as a police
officer in the 1970s to attend school with one goal in mind:
influencing young students in a positive way by becoming an
elementary school teacher, and

WHEREAS, a skilled communicator who strives to keep
learning interesting for his fifth-grade students at Winter
Haven's Garner Elementary School and who places a strong
emphasis on parental involvement, Mr. Bennett has a master's
degree in elementary education, has 12 years of teaching
experience in Polk County, and is currently a doctoral
candidate in organizational leadership, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bennett's love for his students and fellow
teachers extends far beyond the classroom in that he organized
efforts to help staff members whose homes suffered damage or
were destroyed in the 2004 hurricanes and organized the
school's Single Parent Association, a group that offers
resources for single-parent households, the development of
which earned him a Disney Teacherrific Award, and

WHEREAS, Samuel Bennett, known to his students as "Mr.
B," was, for his outstanding efforts, named 2005 Polk County
Teacher of the Year after being selected from five finalists
from the ranks of 177,000 public school teachers for the state
title and is currently one of four finalists for the title of
National Teacher of the Year, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

1 That Samuel Bennett is recognized for being named
2 Florida's Teacher of the Year for 2005 and for his continued
3 dedication to his students and fellow faculty members as well
4 as for his efforts on behalf of the young citizens who will
5 one day become the future of the great State of Florida.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution
7 be presented to Samuel Bennett as a tangible token of the
8 sentiments expressed herein.

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