

WASHINGTON (December 7) – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) commended Shelby County teacher Robert Barnes, who was recognized in Washington today for his work with autistic and cognitively disabled students.

Barnes, a teacher at Creek View Elementary School in Alabaster, was honored at the White House for his innovative teaching methods and dedication to his students. He was among a select group of educators named by the President and the U.S. Department of Education as Nationally Board Certified Teachers, the highest credential in the profession.

“The commitment of Robert Barnes to teach young people with severe learning challenges represents the very best of the teaching profession. Through his inspired teaching, he is changing the lives of these children and their families. By constantly searching for new methods to reach these students, he is providing the highest form of public service to children, their families, and indeed our country,” Congressman Bachus said.

Barnes has taught children with autism and cognitive disabilities for seven years. He was invited to speak on his experiences at the White House and at a Department of Education roundtable.

“National Board Certification has improved my teaching and positively impacted the learning of my students. I feel very blessed to have been able to have this experience. It has strengthened my commitment and will further motivate me as a teacher and representative of my profession,” Barnes said.

Following his visits to the White House and the Department of Education, Barnes received a tour of the U.S. Capitol from Congressman Bachus’ office.

