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## **SMOOT GAINS AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS ENDORSEMENT**

### **Local Labor Teacher's Union Comes Out in Support of Smoot**

(Birmingham AL) – Today, the American Federation of Teachers, Local #2143 announced they would endorse Shelia Smoot in her bid to win the Democratic candidacy for Alabama's 7th Congressional District Seat Primary runoff.

“Commissioner Shelia Smoot worked hard to help build a number of new schools in Jefferson County resulting in a better environment for our teachers to teach and our students to learn,” said Vi Parramore, President of AFT Local #2143. “Her support and passage of the Stellar Program allowing our teachers to gain national certification further shows her tremendous dedication to our children and their educators.”

Smoot has a solid record of working with organized labor and was instrumental in funding new school construction throughout Jefferson County.

“It shows her great leadership and love of education, her concern for children's futures,” added Parramore. “We look forward to working with her as our 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional Congresswoman.”

“We're truly humbled by the strong support from our friends at AFT” said Smoot. “I remain steadfast in my support of Alabama Teachers and Teachers throughout the US.”

“Today more than ever, our schools and our teachers need a candidate who will stand by them and be ‘On their Side’,” urged Smoot. “I have been and will remain the candidate who stands up for working people not the interests of big business or Wall Street.”