

By: Representative Taylor

To: Constitution

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION  
2 211, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO PROVIDE THAT THE  
3 LEASEHOLDER OF SIXTEENTH SECTION LAND, OR OF LAND GRANTED IN LIEU  
4 THEREOF, WHO OWNS A HOME ON THE LAND, MAY PURCHASE A MAXIMUM OF  
5 FIVE ACRES OF THE LAND AT A FAIR MARKET PRICE; AND FOR RELATED  
6 PURPOSES.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF  
8 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi  
9 Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the  
10 state:

11 Amend Section 211, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to read  
12 as follows:

13 "Section 211. (1) The Legislature shall enact such laws as  
14 may be necessary to ascertain the true condition of the title to  
15 the sixteenth section lands in this state, or lands granted in  
16 lieu thereof, in the Choctaw Purchase, and shall provide that the  
17 sixteenth section lands reserved for the support of township  
18 schools, except as hereinafter provided, shall not be sold nor  
19 shall they be leased for a longer term than ten (10) years for  
20 lands situated outside municipalities and for lands situated  
21 within municipalities for a longer term than ninety-nine (99)  
22 years, for a gross sum; provided further, that existing leases of  
23 the sixteenth section lands situated in the municipalities of the  
24 state may, for a gross sum, be extended for a term of years not  
25 exceeding ninety-nine (99) years from the date of such extension,  
26 but the Legislature may provide for the lease of sixteenth section  
27 lands for a term of years not exceeding twenty-five (25) years for  
28 forest and agricultural lands and not exceeding forty (40) years

29 for all other classifications of such lands for a ground rental,  
30 payable annually, and in the case of uncleared lands may lease  
31 them for such short terms as may be deemed proper in consideration  
32 of the improvement thereof, with right thereafter to lease for a  
33 term or to hold on payment of ground rent; provided however, that  
34 land granted in lieu of sixteenth section lands in this state and  
35 situated outside of the county holding or owning same may be sold  
36 and the proceeds from such sale may be invested in a manner to be  
37 prescribed by the Legislature; but provided further, however, that  
38 the Legislature, for industrial development thereon, may authorize  
39 the sale, in whole or in part for a gross sum or otherwise, of  
40 sixteenth section lands, or lands granted in lieu thereof situated  
41 within the county; and the Legislature shall either provide for  
42 the purchase of other lands within the county to be held for the  
43 benefit of the township schools in lieu of the lands sold or shall  
44 provide for the investment of the proceeds of such sale for the  
45 benefit of the township schools, or the Legislature may provide  
46 for both purchase of other lands to be so held and investment of  
47 proceeds for the benefit of the township schools; and the  
48 Legislature, for industrial development thereon, may authorize the  
49 granting of leases on sixteenth section lands, or lands granted in  
50 lieu thereof, in whole or in part, for a gross sum or otherwise,  
51 for terms not to exceed ninety-nine (99) years, and the  
52 Legislature shall provide for the investment of the proceeds of  
53 such leases for the benefit of the township schools. The  
54 Legislature may authorize the lease of not more than three (3)  
55 acres of sixteenth section lands or lands granted in lieu thereof  
56 for a term not exceeding ninety-nine (99) years for a ground  
57 rental, payable annually, to any church, having its principal  
58 place of worship situated on such lands, which has been in  
59 continuous operation at that location for not less than  
60 twenty-five (25) years at the time of the lease.

61 (2) Notwithstanding any limitation on the terms of leases  
62 provided in subsection (1) of this section, the Legislature may  
63 provide, by general law, for leases on liquid, solid or gaseous  
64 minerals with terms coextensive with the operations to produce  
65 such minerals.

66       (3) A leaseholder of sixteenth section land, or of land  
67 granted in lieu thereof, who owns a home on the land, may purchase  
68 a maximum of five (5) acres of the land at a fair market price."

69       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proposed amendment shall be  
70 submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified electors at  
71 an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday  
72 of November 1999, as provided by Section 273 of the Constitution  
73 and by general law.

74       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed  
75 amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed  
76 constitutional amendment provides that a leaseholder of sixteenth  
77 section land, or of land granted in lieu thereof, who owns a home  
78 on the land, may purchase a maximum of five acres of the land at a  
79 fair market price."