

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Constitution

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 525

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION  
2 213-A, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO REVISE AND  
3 RE-ESTABLISH THE DISTRICTS THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF  
4 TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING SHALL BE  
5 APPOINTED FROM AND TO PROVIDE, IN CASE OF A VACANCY, THAT THE  
6 GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A MEMBER FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM WITH  
7 THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE.

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

12 Amend Section 213-A, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to  
13 read as follows:

14 Section 213-A. The state institutions of higher learning now  
15 existing in Mississippi, to wit: University of Mississippi,  
16 Mississippi State University of Agriculture and Applied Science,  
17 Mississippi University for Women, University of Southern  
18 Mississippi, Delta State University, Alcorn State University,  
19 Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, and  
20 any others of like kind which may be hereafter organized or  
21 established by the State of Mississippi, shall be under the  
22 management and control of a board of trustees to be known as the  
23 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.  
24 The \* \* \* Governor \* \* \* shall appoint the members of the board  
25 with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Governor shall  
26 appoint only individuals who are qualified electors residing in  
27 the district from which each is appointed, \* \* \* at least  
28 twenty-five (25) years of age, and of the highest order of

29 intelligence, character, learning and fitness for the performance  
30 of their duties, to the end that the board shall perform its high  
31 and honorable duties \* \* \* to the greatest advantage of the people  
32 of the state and the educational institutions, uninfluenced by any  
33 political considerations. The Board of Trustees of State  
34 Institutions of Higher Learning shall be composed of twelve (12)  
35 members and shall be reconstituted as follows: The Governor shall  
36 appoint two (2) members \* \* \* from each congressional  
37 district \* \* \* as the districts exist at the time the appointments  
38 are made and shall appoint the remainder of the members from the  
39 state at large. The term of office of the trustees \* \* \* shall  
40 be \* \* \* twelve (12) years. The members of the board of trustees  
41 as constituted at the time this amendment is adopted and as  
42 constituted when congressional districts are altered shall \* \* \*  
43 continue to hold office until their respective terms expire \* \* \*.  
44 In case of a vacancy \* \* \*, the Governor shall appoint a  
45 member \* \* \* for the remainder of the term, with the advice and  
46 consent of the Senate.

47 The Legislature shall provide by law for the appointment of a  
48 trustee for the La Bauve Fund at the University of Mississippi and  
49 for the perpetuation of the fund.

50 The board shall have the power and authority to elect the  
51 heads of the various institutions of higher learning, and contract  
52 with all deans, professors and other members of the teaching  
53 staff, and all administrative employees of the institutions for a  
54 term not exceeding four (4) years; but the board shall have the  
55 power and authority to terminate any such contract at any time for  
56 malfeasance, inefficiency or contumacious conduct, but never for  
57 political reasons.

58 Nothing herein contained shall in any way limit or take away  
59 the power the Legislature had and possessed, if any, at the time  
60 of the adoption of this amendment, to consolidate, abolish or  
61 change the status of any of the above named institutions.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this amendment to the  
63 Constitution shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this  
64 state at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the  
65 first Monday of November 1999, in the manner provided by Section

66 273 of the Constitution and by law.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed  
68 amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed  
69 amendment provides that new members of the twelve-member Board of  
70 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning shall be  
71 composed of two (2) members from each congressional district as  
72 they exist at the time of the appointment and the remainder of the  
73 members from the state at large. In case of a vacancy, the  
74 Governor appoints a member for the remainder of the term with the  
75 advice and consent of the Senate."