

By: Senator(s) Hall, Frazier, Johnson
(19th), Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 551

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RIDGELAND UPON THEIR
3 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

4 WHEREAS, the City of Ridgeland, Mississippi, was incorporated
5 as a village on December 29, 1899, when a petition was presented
6 by P.L. Porter, the first Mayor of Ridgeland, to Governor A.J.
7 McLaurin, describing a town of some 150 people, business firms, a
8 post office and a hotel; and

9 WHEREAS, this year's Centennial Celebration provides a period
10 to reflect on the considerable growth of the community, building
11 on the foundations laid by the town's predecessors; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1896, Nichols and Reakle, Chicago Realtors,
13 purchased the original site to form the Highland Colony Company
14 which was one square mile in area located on the highest elevation
15 of the Illinois Central Railroad; building sites for Ridgeland
16 were surveyed and platted in the chancery clerk's office by Edward
17 Treakle and Gorton Nichols, land sold for \$35.00 an acre, a fine
18 three-story hotel was completed and the first school was
19 established in the town hall; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1961, with a census of only 875 people, the
21 comprehensive plan for Madison County and the Municipalities of
22 Canton, Madison, Flora and Ridgeland cited that Ridgeland was
23 expected to grow more than any other area in the county in the
24 next 20 years; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1970, Ridgeland was designated a city and
26 embarked on a period of ambitious growth: in 1984 Northpark Mall

27 opened, in 1994 Highland Colony Parkway construction commenced,
28 and in 1997 The Strategic Plan for the City of Ridgeland was
29 adopted; and

30 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
31 Centennial Celebration of the City of Ridgeland, which is promised
32 unimaginable opportunities and challenges in the next century:

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
34 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
35 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Mayor and Board of
36 Aldermen of the City of Ridgeland upon the occasion of their
37 Centennial Celebration and wish the citizens of Ridgeland
38 continued success in the next century.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
40 presented to Mayor Gene McGee, City Clerk Mike McPhearson and to
41 members of the Board of Aldermen, and be made available to the
42 Capitol Press Corps.