

By: Senator(s) Thames

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 646
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE
2 TAYLORSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE TAYLORSVILLE POLICE
3 DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR QUICK RESPONSE TO THE MASSIVE FIRE IN
4 DOWNTOWN TAYLORSVILLE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1999.

5 WHEREAS, a quick and massive response by the Taylorsville
6 Volunteer Fire Department and the Taylorsville Police Department
7 and by area volunteer fire departments on Sunday, January 31,
8 1999, prevented a building fire from destroying downtown
9 Taylorsville, Mississippi; and

10 WHEREAS, more than 20 units from Smith and surrounding
11 counties responded to a call for help as the old Melroy Theater, a
12 familiar Taylorsville landmark which housed the May Appliance
13 Center, became engulfed in flames that destroyed the building; and

14 WHEREAS, with assistance from volunteer fire departments from
15 Mize, Raleigh, Sylvarena, Richton, Shady Grove, Hebron, Pleasant
16 Ridge, Powers, Soso, Myrick, Moselle, Mill Creek, Boggy Creek,
17 Northeast Jones, Sharon, Glade, Johnson, Mendenhall, Magee,
18 Collins, Hot Coffee, East Covington, Stringer and Bay Springs, the
19 22-member Taylorsville Volunteer Fire Department battled the blaze
20 until about 2:00 a.m. Monday, February 1, 1999; and

21 WHEREAS, according to official reports, flames had broken
22 through the roof of the building and blazed to a height of over 20
23 feet, threatening to quickly spread to other structures due to the
24 radiation of so much heat; and

25 WHEREAS, firemen saturated the walls with water from a bucket
26 truck that Entergy had provided to prevent the fire from spreading
27 until help arrived, and it would have been worse if not for the

28 incredible response from other fire departments; and

29 WHEREAS, personnel from the Mize Police Department, Smith
30 County Sheriff's Department, Soso Police Department, Jones County
31 Sheriff's Department and Jasper County Sheriff's Department, along
32 with the Pine Belt Chapter of the American Red Cross and the AMR
33 Ambulance Service also responded to provide assistance, and all
34 are to be praised for their work; and

35 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the hard
36 work and quick response of all these Mississippians who helped
37 their neighbor when they were most needed, by preventing a
38 building fire from destroying a Mississippi town:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE
40 SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we
41 do hereby recognize and commend the Taylorsville Volunteer Fire
42 Department and the Taylorsville Police Department for their quick
43 response to the massive fire in downtown Taylorsville on Sunday,
44 January 31, 1999, and express our appreciation to all other units
45 that assisted in this effort.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
47 presented to the Chief of the Taylorsville Volunteer Fire
48 Department, the Taylorsville Chief of Police and the Mayor of
49 Taylorsville on behalf of all personnel responding to the fire,
50 and that copies be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.