

By: Bryan, Chaney

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 526

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING  
2 MISSISSIPPI EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS 30TH  
3 ANNIVERSARY.

4 WHEREAS, The Mississippi Authority for Educational Television  
5 (MAET) celebrates its thirtieth anniversary of broadcasting on  
6 February 1, 2000; and

7 WHEREAS, During the years MAET has grown from one television  
8 station to a network comprised of eight public television stations  
9 (ETV) and a nine-station public radio network (Public Radio in  
10 Mississippi and the Radio Reading Service of Mississippi); MAET  
11 serves all eighty-two counties of Mississippi with top quality  
12 educational and cultural programming; and

13 WHEREAS, MAET is Mississippi's most powerful statewide  
14 educational vehicle, reaching almost 200,000 television households  
15 each week with a half million viewers tuning in to Mississippi ETV  
16 during the day. Over 100,000 people listen to PRM each week; and

17 WHEREAS, ETV serves Mississippi classrooms with teaching and  
18 learning resources through varied technology ranging from  
19 broadcast to satellite to an interactive video network. TV  
20 courses include K-12 classes, college credit, GED, and  
21 professional development for teachers. Thirty-five hours of

22 instructional programming are available each week by the same  
23 broadcast technology used in 1970. In addition, two hundred  
24 series are available through duplication services. ETV also has  
25 produced over fifty instructional series to fill specific needs of  
26 Mississippi teachers and students; all have been distributed  
27 nationally. A pioneer in interactive instructional television,  
28 ETV now has over a hundred sites on its interactive video network  
29 with 4,500 students enrolled in interactive courses. More than  
30 ninety high school courses and over 200 hours of staff development  
31 are available; and

32 WHEREAS, MAET serves special segments of the Mississippi  
33 audience through the Radio Reading Service (RRSM) and the Caption  
34 Center. RRSM broadcasts readings from newspapers, books,  
35 magazines, etc. twenty-four hours a day to special receivers  
36 provided to blind and print-handicapped listeners. The Caption  
37 Center provides television captions for hearing-impaired  
38 Mississippians on all programs originating at ETV, including  
39 real-time captioning for live broadcasts, and continues to caption  
40 older ETV productions as time allows. Captioning has also been  
41 recognized as an invaluable tool in teaching reading; and

42 WHEREAS, With its 24-hour-a-day broadcasts, PRM keeps  
43 Mississippians up-to-date with coverage of local events, state and  
44 world news and weather information, and announcements of various  
45 events within the state. It provides the best in music for  
46 listeners and promotes Mississippi performing artists through  
47 broadcasts of local concerts. PRM, in cooperation with MEMA and  
48 MDOT, is the official source of information during emergencies  
49 such as hurricanes; and

50 WHEREAS, ETV participates in the national Ready to Learn  
51 (RTL) program, a service designed to help parents, teachers, and  
52 other care givers use public television to help children love

53 learning, thus advancing the goal that all children start school  
54 "ready to learn." ETV's RTL offered sixty-seven workshops during  
55 the past year, directly reaching over a thousand people; and

56 WHEREAS, ETV's general audience programming furnishes  
57 lifelong learning for Mississippi citizens; and

58 WHEREAS, complementing its strong commitment to instructional  
59 broadcasting, ETV offers a wide range of popular general audience  
60 programming, including nine continuing locally produced series,  
61 and highly acclaimed programs purchased from PBS and other  
62 sources; and

63 WHEREAS, In its thirty years of service to Mississippi, ETV  
64 has won more than 400 awards for instructional and general  
65 audience productions. These include the prestigious Peabody Award  
66 "for enhancing the educational system of the State of Mississippi  
67 through the innovative use of television," and a 1999 national  
68 Emmy for *Ticktock Minutes*, the first national Emmy ever won in  
69 Mississippi; and

70 WHEREAS, It is with great pride that we recognize this state  
71 agency which combines its strong commitment to public education  
72 with its general audience productions, bringing honor to its staff  
73 and to the State of Mississippi:

74 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
75 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
76 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Mississippi Authority  
77 for Educational Television (MAET) upon the occasion of its 30th  
78 anniversary of broadcasting, and wish it continued success in its  
79 mission.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to

81 the Executive Director of MAET and its board of trustees, and be  
82 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.