A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 36 TRIO PROGRAMS AT
THE STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND DESIGNATING

WHEREAS, National TRIO Day was designated by concurrent
resolution on February 24, 1986 by the 99th Congress and has been
celebrated annually ever since in recognition of the importance of
TRIO Programs in preparing nontraditional college bound students
to seek, pursue, and excel at educational endeavors beyond the
secondary level; and

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs: Educational Talent Search, Upward
Bound, Upward Bound Math & Science, Student Support Services,
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program and
Educational Achievement Centers, were established more than thirty
years ago to assist low-income students overcome class, social
academic, and cultural barriers to higher education. These
programs provide invaluable services to low-income and/or first
generation college goers to heighten their chances of successful
matriculation at the post-secondary education level;

WHEREAS, Currently, there are 36 TRIO Programs at
Mississippi institutions of higher education, the MS Department of
Education and the MS Band of Choctaw Indians. These programs are
presented jointly by the Mississippi Association of Equal
Opportunity program personnel (MAEOPP). More than 1200 low-income
and/or first generation college going students, between the ages
of 11 and 27, benefit from the services provided by these TRIO
Programs. These students represent the highest aspirations and
best hope for the American dream and Mississippi's future. By
lifting these students to new academic heights, TRIO Programs are
helping to raise the academic standards, expectations, and
aspirations for Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, With TRIO Program graduates found in every
occupation mentionable: doctor, lawyer, politician, counselor,
teacher, business owner, - it is obvious that TRIO Programs have
played a major role in decreasing Mississippi's drop-out rate by
encouraging and supporting high school completion, increasing the
number of college graduates by providing needed guidance and
support for successful matriculation and reducing defaults in the
Mississippians loan programs by helping low-income students better
understand their financial obligations; and

WHEREAS, As we embark into the new millennium, the MAEOPP
TRIO Programs plan to continue encouraging its students to seek,
pursue, and conquer the challenges of higher education by "Facing
the New Millennium Head-On" as we celebrate National TRIO Day 2000
on Saturday, February 26, 2000 at the T.B. Ellis Physical
Education Complex on the campus of Jackson State University:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
we do hereby commend the 36 TRIO Programs at the various state
institutions of higher learning in Mississippi, designate
Saturday, February 26, 2000, as National TRIO Day 2000 in
Mississippi and encourage citizens throughout the state to honor
this observance and support the educational aspirations of TRIO
students throughout our great State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented at
National TRIO Day 2000, and be forwarded to the Board of Trustees
of State Institutions of Higher Learning and be made available to
the Capitol Press Corps.