

By: Harvey

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 624

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY  
2 COMMISSION AND ITS EMPLOYEES FOR AN OUTSTANDING EFFORT IN  
3 CONTAINING FOREST FIRES DURING THE FALL OF 1999 AND SPRING OF  
4 2000.

5 WHEREAS, Mississippi is richly blessed with forests that  
6 cover 62% of its land area; and

7 WHEREAS, economic impact results in \$11.4 Billion industry;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, these forests provide employment to more than  
10 129,000 of its citizens, habitat for wildlife, recreational  
11 opportunities for both residents and visitors, enhance the beauty  
12 of the state and its environment, and provide serene home sites  
13 for numerous Mississippians; and

14 WHEREAS, the severely dry weather during the fall of 1999 and  
15 spring of 2000 pushed the fire danger to unusually high levels,  
16 resulting in a 35% increase in the number of fires; and

17 WHEREAS, the hard work and diligence of the firefighting  
18 crews of the Mississippi Forestry Commission resulted in a  
19 negligible increase in average fire size; and

20 WHEREAS, said hard work and diligence protected the forests  
21 of this state and the lives and property of its citizens from  
22 destruction by wildfire:

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
24 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
25 we do hereby commend the Mississippi Forestry Commission and its  
26 employees for a job well done in containing forest fires during  
27 the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000, and wish them continued

28 success in their responsibilities.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
30 presented to the Mississippi Forestry Commission on behalf of all  
31 employees, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.