

By: Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 643  
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE TO  
2 REVIEW THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN MISSISSIPPI AND MAKE  
3 RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FUNDING NEEDS OF THE 87 HIGHWAY  
4 PROGRAM AND GENERAL PAVEMENT REHABILITATION; TO DIRECT THE JOINT  
5 COMMITTEE TO MAKE A WRITTEN REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND  
6 RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2000; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Transportation Commission is charged  
8 with developing and operating a safe intermodal transportation  
9 network for the enhancement of the economic development for the  
10 citizens of the State of Mississippi; and

11 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Transportation Commission has  
12 requested the Legislature to establish a study committee to review  
13 the available funding for the completion of the 87 Highway  
14 Program; and

15 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Transportation Commission has  
16 requested the study committee to become informed about the state's  
17 pressing needs for pavement rehabilitation on the state's highway  
18 system:

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
20 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
21 a Special Joint Study and Oversight Committee is created to Review  
22 the Transportation System in Mississippi and make recommendations  
23 concerning the Funding Needs of the 87 Highway Program and General  
24 Pavement Rehabilitation. The joint committee shall be composed of  
25 the members of the Mississippi Transportation Commission, the  
26 Chairman of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee, the  
27 Chairman of the House Transportation Committee, the Chairman of  
28 the Senate Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the House

29 Appropriations Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Finance  
30 Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee,  
31 three (3) Senators from each of the three (3) named Senate  
32 committees to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, three (3)  
33 Representatives from each of the three (3) named House committees  
34 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Executive  
35 Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation.

36       Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the  
37 2000 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor  
38 and Speaker shall appoint the members of the committee. After the  
39 members are appointed, the joint committee shall meet on a date  
40 designated by the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department  
41 of Transportation in Jackson, Mississippi, to select a chairman,  
42 organize the committee and establish rules for transacting its  
43 business and keeping records. An affirmative vote of a majority  
44 of the members shall be required in the adoption of rules,  
45 resolutions and reports. All members of the joint committee shall  
46 be notified in writing of all regular and special meetings of the  
47 committee, which notices shall be mailed at least five (5) days  
48 before the dates of the meetings.

49       The joint committee may establish any subcommittees that it  
50 deems desirable to study and report to the committee with respect  
51 to any matter that is within the scope of this resolution.

52       The joint committee shall make a written report of its  
53 findings and recommendations, and shall mail copies of the report  
54 to each member of the Legislature not later than December 1, 2000.

55       In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the joint  
56 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of  
57 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state,  
58 including the state universities and the community and junior  
59 colleges. In particular, the joint committee shall consult with  
60 the Mississippi Department of Transportation, and the Mississippi  
61 Department of Transportation shall cooperate with the committee  
62 and provide the committee with any information and other  
63 assistance requested by the committee. The joint committee may  
64 consult and seek advice from various groups in the state in order  
65 to understand the effect of any existing laws or any changes in

66 law being considered by the committee.

67         For attending meetings of the joint committee, each  
68 legislative member shall be paid per diem compensation in the  
69 amount authorized by Section 25-3-69 and a mileage allowance and  
70 an expense allowance in the amount authorized by Section 5-1-47,  
71 to be paid from the contingent expense fund of the member's  
72 respective house. Nonlegislative members shall not receive per  
73 diem compensation but shall be entitled to expense reimbursement  
74 for any necessary travel. However, no per diem compensation,  
75 mileage allowance or expense allowance shall be paid for attending  
76 meetings of the joint committee while the Legislature is in  
77 session, and no per diem compensation, mileage allowance or  
78 expense allowance shall be paid without prior approval of the  
79 proper committee in the member's respective house.