

By: Michel, Chaney, King, White (29th),
Hewes, Dickerson, Harvey, Scoper

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 659
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE TO
2 EVALUATE CURRENT TUITION ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS FOR
3 MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND DETERMINING THE
4 FEASIBILITY OF INSTITUTING A H.O.P.E.-TYPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR
5 MISSISSIPPI STUDENTS SIMILAR TO PROGRAMS IN OTHER SOUTHERN STATES
6 AS PROPOSED BY THE ROTARY CLUBS INTERNATIONAL AND MAKE
7 RECOMMENDATIONS THEREON; TO DIRECT THE JOINT COMMITTEE TO MAKE A
8 WRITTEN REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE DECEMBER
9 1, 2000; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
11 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
12 a Special Joint Study Committee is created to Evaluate Current
13 Tuition Assistance and Financial Aid Programs for Mississippi
14 College and University Students and Determining the Feasibility of
15 Instituting a H.O.P.E.-Type Scholarship Program for Mississippi
16 Students Similar to Programs in other Southern States as Proposed
17 by the Rotary Clubs International and make recommendations
18 thereon. The joint committee shall be composed of eight (8)
19 members as follows: the Chairmen of the Senate and House
20 Universities and Colleges Committees, who shall serve as
21 co-chairmen, the Vice Chairmen of the Senate and House
22 Universities and Colleges Committees, two (2) Senators to be
23 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and two (2) Representatives
24 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

25 Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the
26 2000 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor
27 and Speaker shall make necessary appointments to the committee.
28 After the members are appointed, the joint committee shall meet on
29 a date designated by the co-chairmen in Jackson, Mississippi, to

30 select a vice chairman who shall serve as secretary of the joint
31 committee, to organize the committee and establish rules for
32 transacting its business and keeping records. An affirmative vote
33 of a majority of the members shall be required in the adoption of
34 rules, resolutions and reports. All members of the joint
35 committee shall be notified in writing of all regular and special
36 meetings of the committee, which notices shall be mailed at least
37 five (5) days before the dates of the meetings.

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

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

44 In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the joint
45 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
46 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state,
47 including the state universities and the community and junior
48 colleges. In particular, the joint committee shall consult with
49 the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Executive Director of
50 the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges who shall
51 cooperate with the committee and provide the committee with any
52 information and other assistance requested by the committee. The
53 joint committee may consult and seek advice from various groups in
54 the state in order to understand the effect of any existing laws
55 or any changes in law being considered by the committee.

56 For attending meetings of the joint committee, each
57 legislative member shall be paid per diem compensation in the
58 amount authorized by Section 25-3-69 and a mileage allowance and
59 an expense allowance in the amount authorized by Section 5-1-47,
60 to be paid from the contingent expense fund of the member's
61 respective house. However, no per diem compensation, mileage
62 allowance or expense allowance shall be paid for attending
63 meetings of the joint committee while the Legislature is in
64 session, and no per diem compensation, mileage allowance or
65 expense allowance shall be paid without prior approval of the
66 proper committee in the member's respective house.