

By: Walls

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15  
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE FOUNDERS CELEBRATION OF THE  
2 AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND COMMENDING THE ST. MATTHEW  
3 A.M.E. CHURCH OF GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN  
4 THE CELEBRATION.

5 WHEREAS, The African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded  
6 in 1787, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by its first Bishop the  
7 Right Reverend Richard Allen; and

8 WHEREAS, the Founders celebration is a call to remembrance of  
9 the courage, faith, sacrifice and spiritual commitment that gave  
10 birth to the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

11 WHEREAS, unlike most churches which have their origin in a  
12 theological, doctrinal or ideological dispute, the African  
13 Methodist Episcopal Church was founded to heed the cry of  
14 Americans of African descent to worship God freely, to grow in the  
15 Spirit, and to be recognized as fellow children of God; and

16 WHEREAS, in the face of discrimination, exploitation, hatred,  
17 ostracism and racism the African Methodist Episcopal Church  
18 responded not with ill-will toward those who inflicted such pain,  
19 but with a heart full of love for God; and

20 WHEREAS, this spiritual foundation of love caused the African  
21 Methodist Episcopal Church to blossom into a remarkable movement  
22 that was the catalyst for change in millions of lives; and

23 WHEREAS, as a result, every African Methodist Episcopal  
24 church proclaims and its members fulfill the noble purpose to be  
25 unquestionable Christians and American citizens; and

26 WHEREAS, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, its  
27 accomplishments, and its membership are the embodiment of its

28 motto: "God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother";  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, the St. Matthew African Methodist Episcopal Church  
31 of Greenville, Mississippi, of the Eighth District of the  
32 Connectional African Methodist Episcopal Church under the  
33 leadership of its pastor, Reverend Eric J. Boone will host the  
34 Founders celebration on February 18-20, 2000 with a Founders  
35 banquet on February 19, 2000; and

36 WHEREAS, the Bishop of the Eighth Episcopal District of the  
37 African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Right Reverend Richard  
38 Allen Chappelle, Sr. and his wife, Mother Barbara J. Chappelle,  
39 will attend this celebration; and

40 WHEREAS, in recognition of this auspicious celebration  
41 Governor Ronnie Musgrove and Lieutenant Governor Amy Tuck of the  
42 State of Mississippi will attend the Founders banquet:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
44 MISSISSIPPI, That we commemorate the founding and the Founders  
45 celebration of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and commend  
46 the St. Matthew A.M.E. Church of Greenville, Mississippi for its  
47 participation in the celebration and commend the leadership and  
48 service of the Right Reverend Richard Allen Chappelle, Sr. and  
49 Reverend Eric J. Boone.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
51 presented to the St. Matthew A.M.E. Church of Greenville, the  
52 Right Reverend Richard Allen Chappelle, Sr., Reverend Eric J.  
53 Boone and that copies be made available to the Capitol Press  
54 Corps.