SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 517

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CREATE A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE TO
STUDY THE CREATION OF A DEPARTMENT ON WOMEN'S AFFAIRS; AND FOR
RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That a special joint
study committee is created to make a comprehensive study of the
creation of a cabinet level position or department on women's
affairs. The joint committee shall be composed of five (5)
members of the House of Representatives, one (1) from each
congressional district, to be appointed by the Speaker of the
House, five (5) members of the Senate, one (1) from each
congressional district, to be appointed by the Lieutenant
Governor, and the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House and the
President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The chairman of the joint
committee shall be elected by the committee.

Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the
2001 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Speaker and the
Lieutenant Governor shall appoint the members of the committee.
After the members are appointed, the joint committee shall meet on
a date designated by the chairman of the joint committee at the
New Capitol to organize the committee and establish rules for
transacting its business and keeping records. A majority of the
members of the joint committee from each house shall constitute a
quorum at all committee meetings. An affirmative vote of a
majority of the members from each house present and voting shall
be required in the adoption of rules, resolutions and reports and
in any other actions taken by the committee. All members of the
joint committee shall be notified in writing of all regular and
special meetings of the committee, which notices shall be mailed
at least five (5) days before the dates of the meetings.
The joint committee may establish any subcommittees that it
deems desirable to study and report to the committee with respect
to any matter that is within the scope of this resolution.
The joint committee shall make a written report of its
findings and recommendations, and shall mail copies of the report
to each member of the Legislature not later than December 1, 2001.
In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the joint
committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state,
including the state universities and the community and junior
colleges.

For attending meetings of the joint committee, each member
shall be paid, from the contingent expense fund of the member's
respective house, per diem compensation in the amount authorized
by Section 25-3-69, Mississippi Code of 1972, and a mileage
allowance and an expense allowance in the amount authorized by
Section 5-1-47, Mississippi Code of 1972. However, no per diem
compensation, mileage allowance or expense allowance shall be paid
for attending meetings of the joint committee while the
Legislature is in session, and no per diem compensation, mileage
allowance or expense allowance shall be paid without prior
approval of the proper committee in the member's respective house.

All expenses incurred by and on behalf of the joint committee
shall be paid from funds made available by the House Management
Committee and the Senate Management Committee from the contingent
expense funds of the respective houses, from any funds
appropriated for the purpose of this resolution, and from any
grants or contributions made to the committee for its purpose.