

By: Senator(s) Dickerson, Chamberlin

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 605

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE TO
2 STUDY CRIMINAL CODE REFORM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

3 WHEREAS, the Legislature has determined that a study is
4 needed for criminal code reform, classification of crimes and
5 sentencing terms:

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
7 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
8 there is hereby created a special joint study committee to study
9 criminal code reform, classification of crimes and sentencing
10 terms, and make recommendations concerning any changes that such
11 committee finds necessary. The joint committee shall be composed
12 of the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Chairman of
13 the Senate Corrections Committee, three (3) members of the Senate
14 to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, Chairman of the House
15 Judiciary Committee En Banc, Chairman of the House Penitentiary
16 Committee, and three (3) members of the House of Representatives
17 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House. The chairman of the
18 joint committee shall be the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary
19 Committee and the vice chairman shall be the Chairman of the House
20 Judiciary Committee En Banc.

21 Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the
22 2001 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor
23 and the Speaker shall appoint the members of the committee. After
24 the members are appointed, the joint committee shall meet on a
25 date designated by the chairman of the joint committee in Jackson,
26 Mississippi, to organize the committee and establish rules for

27 transacting its business and keeping records. A majority of the
28 members of the joint committee from each house shall constitute a
29 quorum at all committee meetings. An affirmative vote of a
30 majority of the members from each house shall be required in the
31 adoption of rules, resolutions and reports. All members of the
32 joint committee shall be notified in writing of all regular and
33 special meetings of the committee, which notices shall be mailed
34 at least five (5) days before the dates of the meetings.

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

38 The joint committee shall make a written report of its
39 findings and recommendations, and shall mail copies of the report
40 to each member of the Legislature not later than January 5, 2002.
41 Upon the filing of the written report, the joint committee shall
42 be dissolved.

43 In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the joint
44 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
45 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state,
46 including the state universities and the community and junior
47 colleges. In particular, the joint committee shall consult with
48 the criminal code reform study committee of The Mississippi Bar.
49 The joint committee may consult and seek advice from various
50 groups in the state in order to understand the effect of any
51 existing laws or any changes in law being considered by the
52 committee.

53 For attending meetings of the joint committee, each member
54 shall be paid from the contingent expense fund of the member's
55 respective house, per diem compensation in the amount authorized
56 by Section 25-3-69 and a mileage allowance and an expense
57 allowance in the amount authorized by Section 5-1-47. However, no
58 per diem compensation, mileage allowance or expense allowance
59 shall be paid for attending meetings of the joint committee while

60 the Legislature is in session, and no per diem compensation,
61 mileage allowance or expense allowance shall be paid without prior
62 approval of the proper committee in the member's respective house.

63 All expenses incurred by and on behalf of the joint committee
64 shall be paid from funds made available by the House Management
65 Committee and the Senate Rules Committee from the contingent
66 expense funds of the respective houses, from any funds
67 appropriated for such purpose, and from any grants or
68 contributions made to the committee for its purpose.