

By: Senator(s) Hewes, King, Farris

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. JOHN EDMOND GONZALES, PROFESSOR  
2 OF HISTORY, FOR HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
3 SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. John Edmond Gonzales has served the University  
5 of Southern Mississippi with distinction for 54 years, longer than  
6 any other faculty member in the history of the university; and

7 WHEREAS, born in 1924, Gonzales grew up in Gonzales,  
8 Louisiana, where his father worked in an agricultural cooperative  
9 and his mother taught school; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales came to the University of Mississippi  
11 in 1945, after receiving his master's degree in history at  
12 Louisiana State University and subsequently earning a Ph.D. at the  
13 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales was an outstanding teacher of history  
15 at the University of Southern Mississippi, teaching more than  
16 twenty thousand students; and

17 WHEREAS, in addition to his teaching, Dr. Gonzales, whose  
18 specialty is 19th Century southern history, edited the Journal of  
19 Mississippi History for 30 years and was a driving force in the  
20 revival of the Mississippi Historical Society, serving as its  
21 president; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales has a reputation among students not  
23 only as an outstanding teacher but also as a caring, civil  
24 gentleman; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales supervised and participated in the  
26 training of numerous graduate students who went on to make their  
27 contributions to the history profession; and

28           WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales retired from the University of Southern  
29 Mississippi in 1995, but continued to teach until 1999, when  
30 health problems forced him to give up the love of his life; and

31           WHEREAS, in June 2000, Dr. Gonzales was honored with the  
32 dedication of the auditorium in the new Liberal Arts Building in  
33 his name; and

34           WHEREAS, Dr. Gonzales has generously donated both his time  
35 and financial resources to the USM Department of History,  
36 bestowing the largest gift ever given by a current or former  
37 faculty member at the University of Southern Mississippi; and

38           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
39 and commend such an outstanding professor as Dr. John Edmond  
40 Gonzales, who has dedicated his life to educating the young people  
41 of this state, who are its future:

42           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
43 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend Dr. John Edmond Gonzales  
44 for his many contributions to the University of Southern  
45 Mississippi.

46           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
47 furnished to Dr. John Gonzales and made available to the Capitol  
48 Press Corps.