

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.