

By: Senator(s) Dickerson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 518

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, the Chairman of the  
15 House Judiciary Committee En Banc, the Chairman of the House  
16 Penitentiary Committee, and three (3) members of the House of  
17 Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House. The  
18 chairman of the joint committee shall be the Chairman of the  
19 Senate Judiciary Committee and the vice chairman shall be the  
20 Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee En Banc.

21 Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the  
22 2002 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, 2003.  
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 Mississippi Judicial Advisory Study Committee Consulting Group  
49 on Criminal Code Revision. The joint committee may consult and  
50 seek advice from various groups in the state in order to  
51 understand the effect of any existing laws or any changes in law  
52 being considered by the 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.

