

By: Representative Barnett (92nd)

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 121

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING  
2 COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR ITS 75 YEARS OF SERVICE IN  
3 PROVIDING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, in the fall of 1915, Copiah Lincoln Agricultural  
5 High School was created as a boarding school to serve the rural  
6 districts of Copiah and Lincoln Counties; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1928, under the authority of Section 308, Chapter  
8 283, of the General Laws of the State of Mississippi of 1924,  
9 Copiah-Lincoln (Co-Lin) Junior College was organized to meet the  
10 educational needs, beyond the twelfth grade, of Copiah and Lincoln  
11 Counties; and

12 WHEREAS, since its establishment in 1928, Co-Lin has been led  
13 by many prestigious presidents, including: Russell Ellzey, who  
14 was the first president in 1928; James Malcomb Ewing, who became  
15 the second president of Co-Lin Junior College in 1932 and served  
16 until 1956; Willie H. Smith, who was named acting president and  
17 became the third president of Co-Lin from 1943-1945; Francis  
18 Marion Fortenberry, who became the fourth president of Co-Lin in  
19 1956 until his retirement in 1968; Billy Bass Thames, who became  
20 the fifth president of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College in 1968 until  
21 he retired in 1997; and Howell C. Garner, who became the sixth  
22 president of Co-Lin in 1997; and

23 WHEREAS, throughout its rich history, Co-Lin's educational  
24 reach has extended to include additional counties, in response to  
25 requests from Simpson County in 1934, Franklin County in 1948,  
26 Jefferson County in 1967 and Adams County in 1971, allowing



27 students in these counties to receive the benefits of a two-year  
28 college; and

29 WHEREAS, Co-Lin has continued to grow in size and prestige by  
30 opening a branch campus in Natchez, Mississippi, and a facility in  
31 Simpson County to better meet the educational needs of the  
32 citizens in those areas; and

33 WHEREAS, on July 1, 1988, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College was  
34 renamed Copiah-Lincoln Community College as approved by the state  
35 and the board of trustees to reflect Co-Lin's continuing service  
36 to the community, its young people, adults and senior citizens;  
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Co-Lin has a long tradition of excellence providing  
39 two full years of academic education preparing students to  
40 transfer to a senior institution; and

41 WHEREAS, Co-Lin continues to meet the educational and  
42 training needs of the local community through its quality programs  
43 and services, providing a variety of educational programs, which  
44 include adult basic education, continuing education and community  
45 service programs for individuals striving for professional growth  
46 and personal enrichment and offering outstanding career and  
47 technical programs to prepare students to enter the workforce; and

48 WHEREAS, Co-Lin maintains a strong commitment to the use of  
49 state-of-the-art technology in all college programs and services;  
50 and

51 WHEREAS, in 2003, Co-Lin is celebrating its 75th anniversary  
52 and has chosen as its theme: "A Celebration of Learning,  
53 Community and Commitment," which appropriately describes Co-Lin's  
54 rich history and its philosophy for the future; and

55 WHEREAS, Co-Lin will share this time of remembrance,  
56 reminiscence, fellowship and appreciation with special events  
57 throughout the year; and



58           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature to pay tribute  
59 to an exemplary educational institution such as Copiah-Lincoln  
60 Community College:

61           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
62 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
63 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Copiah-Lincoln  
64 Community College upon its 75 years of service in providing higher  
65 education in the State of Mississippi.

66           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
67 furnished to Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

