

By: Senator(s) Jackson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 505

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE TO
2 STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN
3 SMALL TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS OF MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
6 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
7 a special joint study and oversight committee, the Commission on
8 Rural and Small Town Economic Development, is created to study and
9 make recommendations concerning economic development in rural
10 areas and small towns in Mississippi. The joint committee shall
11 be composed of three (3) members of the Senate appointed by the
12 Lieutenant Governor, three (3) members of the House of
13 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House. In
14 addition, there shall be three (3) mayors of small towns, three
15 (3) members from the board of supervisors of rural counties, three
16 (3) county economic development directors and three (3) citizens.
17 The Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker and the Governor shall
18 appoint one (1) member from each category. The Director of the
19 Small Town Development Center at Mississippi State University
20 shall be an ex officio member.

21 Within fifteen (15) days after sine die adjournment of the
22 2003 regular Session of the Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor,
23 the Speaker and the Governor shall appoint the members of the
24 committee. After the members are appointed, the joint committee
25 shall meet on a date designated by the Governor in Jackson,
26 Mississippi, to select a chairman, organize the committee and
27 establish rules for transacting its business and keeping records.
28 An affirmative vote of a majority of the members shall be required



29 in the adoption of rules, resolutions and reports. All members of
30 the joint committee shall be notified in writing of all regular
31 and special meetings of the committee, which notices shall be
32 mailed at least five (5) days before the dates of the meetings.

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

36 The joint committee shall make a written report of its
37 findings and recommendations, and shall mail copies of the report
38 to each member of the Legislature not later than December 1, 2003.

39 In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the joint
40 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
41 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state,
42 including the state universities and the community and junior
43 colleges. In particular, the joint committee shall consult with
44 the Mississippi Development Authority, and the Mississippi
45 Development Authority shall cooperate with the committee and
46 provide the committee with any information, administrative and
47 technical support, and other assistance requested by the
48 committee. The joint committee may consult and seek advice from
49 various groups in the state in order to understand the effect of
50 any existing laws or any changes in law being considered by the
51 committee.

52 For attending meetings of the joint committee, each member
53 shall be paid per diem compensation in the amount authorized by
54 Section 25-3-69 and a mileage allowance and an expense allowance
55 in the amount authorized by Section 5-1-47. Legislative members
56 shall be paid from the contingent expense fund of the member's
57 respective house, and nonlegislative members shall be paid from
58 funds made available by appropriation of the Legislature for the
59 purpose of this resolution. However, no per diem compensation,
60 mileage allowance or expense allowance shall be paid for attending
61 meetings of the joint committee while the Legislature is in



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

