

By: Senator(s) Simmons

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 592

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING TO THE UNITED STATES
2 CONGRESS THE SUPPORT OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI FOR THE AMERICAN
3 COMMUNITY SURVEY.

4 WHEREAS, in 1996, the United States Bureau of the Census
5 began testing the American Community Survey in response to
6 bipartisan requests from Congress after the 1990 Census to respond
7 to the problem that Decennial Census data has diminishing utility
8 during the decade between decennial censuses; and

9 WHEREAS, the American Community Survey, as part of the 2010
10 Census Re-Engineering effort, is an alternative method of
11 administering the long form component of the Decennial Census,
12 which will result in yearly data releases instead of the current
13 releases once every ten years; and

14 WHEREAS, questions on the American Community Survey are
15 essentially the same as those on the Census 2000 long form, which
16 were required by Federal laws, regulations or court decisions; and

17 WHEREAS, the Census Bureau will make every effort to partner
18 with state, local and tribal government officials to educate the
19 nation about the census and to keep our constituencies informed
20 about the survey's uses, benefits and protections; and

21 WHEREAS, as the American Community Survey is a component of
22 the decennial census, respondents will be protected by the same
23 privacy and confidentiality protections afforded to all
24 respondents of the traditional decennial census; and

25 WHEREAS, through the American Community Survey, the Census
26 Bureau will provide data to all levels of government to empower



27 state, local and tribal elected, appointed and career officials to
28 track the status of the communities they serve; and

29 WHEREAS, the American Community Survey has demonstrated its
30 usefulness as a decision-making tool for administrators and
31 legislators during its testing phase with a data release that
32 demonstrated emerging regional trends in a timely manner; and

33 WHEREAS, the American Community Survey will make long form
34 socioeconomic data available to populations at all levels of
35 geography prior to the 2010 Decennial Census; and

36 WHEREAS, the American Community Survey has the potential to
37 improve the quality of redistricting data by improving mail-back
38 response rates; and

39 WHEREAS, full funding is necessary to launch the American
40 Community Survey nationwide with an adequate sample size in order
41 to maximize its usefulness as a resource for state legislators:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
43 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
44 we do hereby support the American Community Survey and the Census
45 Bureau's 2010 Re-Engineering effort, and seek continued
46 partnership with the Census Bureau as the 2010 Re-Engineering
47 effort develops throughout the decade.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby urges
49 Congress to fully fund the American Community Survey at the level
50 requested by the Administration, and make a long-term commitment
51 to fund this effort at adequate levels in future fiscal years.

52 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare a
53 copy of this resolution for presentation to the Mississippi
54 Congressional Delegation.

