

By: Senator(s) Hyde-Smith, Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 74

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE SOUTH MCCOMB  
2 BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP UPON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

3 WHEREAS, the South McComb Baptist Church membership will  
4 celebrate an exceptional milestone, their 100-year anniversary, on  
5 March 30, 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, South McComb Baptist Church was founded in early  
7 1902 by Mr. and Mrs. S. Murray Wilson, and because of an  
8 historical phenomenon, which was the combination of two churches,  
9 South McComb Baptist Church is in existence today; and

10 WHEREAS, Whitestown Baptist Church, which was organized on  
11 January 27, 1894, passed a resolution on November 7, 1902, that  
12 read as follows: "That if the Baptist people in South McComb are  
13 willing to purchase a lot in South McComb and build a house for  
14 Baptist worship and to hold their membership in it, the Baptist  
15 people in Whitestown are willing to join them in the effort to  
16 build the house, and to hold our membership with them," and five  
17 months later these two committees were in the process of building  
18 the first South McComb church building together; and

19 WHEREAS, for the first 50 years, South McComb Baptist Church  
20 had only four Pastors, the first of whom was Reverend J.P. Hemby,  
21 the second Pastor was Reverend J.H. Lane, the third Pastor was  
22 Reverend R.R. Jones, and the fourth Pastor was James A. Bryant;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, a Sunday School was implemented immediately  
25 following the organization of the church, a Woman's Missionary  
26 Society was active as early as 1905, and a Brotherhood was  
27 organized in 1946; church members voted to appoint a building



28 committee for a Pastor's home on December 4, 1921; the educational  
29 annex was built in 1949, and the basement of the church was  
30 completely remodeled in 1951; and

31 WHEREAS, Reverend C.F. Barnes moved to South McComb from  
32 Wesson, Mississippi, to serve as Pastor in October 1953, and  
33 Reverend Herman P. Hayes of Bossier City, Louisiana, accepted the  
34 Pastorate of South McComb Baptist Church in July 1956, and Brother  
35 and Mrs. Hayes served South McComb Baptist Church until July 1959,  
36 at which time they departed for South Vietnam under appointment of  
37 the Foreign Mission Board, and Reverend W.R. Gifford moved to  
38 South McComb Baptist Church from Picayune, Mississippi, in  
39 December 1959; and

40 WHEREAS, the church built an educational building that served  
41 eight elementary departments and dedication services were held for  
42 the new elementary building in May 1963; and

43 WHEREAS, Reverend David A. Millican, who moved to South  
44 McComb Baptist Church from Stonewall, Mississippi, began his  
45 service on July 15, 1963, and in September 1964, the church voted  
46 to proceed with plans to build a new auditorium, which was  
47 completed and dedicated in September 1965; and

48 WHEREAS, in September 1965, Reverend Millican started the  
49 Kindergarten Ministry of South McComb Baptist Church, which at one  
50 time was the largest kindergarten in Southwest Mississippi, and  
51 the kindergarten has been a strong ministry of South McComb  
52 Baptist Church for 38 years; and

53 WHEREAS, a new bell tower was constructed on the west side of  
54 the sanctuary and dedicated on Bi-Centennial Sunday, July 4, 1976,  
55 and the 75th Anniversary Celebration was held on September 17,  
56 1978, with Dr. Earl Kelly, Executive Director-Treasurer of the  
57 Mississippi Baptist Convention Board as guest speaker; and

58 WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Johnson was called as Pastor in August  
59 1996, and Reverend Ted C. Bowlin of Monticello, Mississippi, was  
60 called as Pastor on October 11, 1998; and



61           WHEREAS, looking back over the last 100 years of ministry of  
62 the church, it is evident that the Lord has guided South McComb  
63 Baptist Church every step of the way, and as the church begins a  
64 new time of service and outreach for the Lord, we recognize this  
65 outstanding church which has been a remarkable inspiration to  
66 people throughout Mississippi and the world:

67           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
68 MISSISSIPPI, That we commend and congratulate South McComb Baptist  
69 Church upon their 100-year anniversary, and we wish them every  
70 success in all their future endeavors.

71           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
72 furnished to South McComb Baptist Church and to members of the  
73 Capitol Press Corps.

