

By: Representatives Lott, Chism, Fillingane,
Hamilton (6th), Mayhall, Moore, Rogers (14th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 58

1 A RESOLUTION ASKING CONGRESS TO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO
2 SUPPORTING AND PASSING THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL FIRST.

3 WHEREAS, the security of our nation and people is the first
4 and foremost obligation of our United States federal government;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the men and women of our United States Armed Forces
7 now serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast
8 Guard, Merchant Marines, National Guard and Reserves have shown
9 great courage and self-sacrifice and deserve to be equipped with
10 the best weapons and resources to protect our nation; and

11 WHEREAS, in past years politicians have delayed passing the
12 defense appropriations bill until late in the budget year so that
13 the defense appropriations bill was misused as a dumping ground
14 for pork barrel spending and as a political hostage to pork barrel
15 spending on other appropriations bills; and

16 WHEREAS, in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September
17 11, 2001, on America, President Bush asked that the Congress of
18 the United States pass the defense appropriations bill before
19 passing other spending bills; and

20 WHEREAS, Congress acted responsibly in the Spring of 2002,
21 when it passed the defense appropriations bill first, thereby
22 protecting the men and women in our Armed Forces from becoming
23 pawns for politicians' spending maneuvers:

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That the House of
26 Representatives commends Congress for making our nation's defense
27 its first priority in 2002, and requests that the representatives

28 and senators from our state continue this important tradition by
29 passing and enacting the defense appropriations legislation before
30 all other spending bills in 2004 and in future years.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
32 furnished to Mississippi's Congressional Delegation and to the
33 members of the Capitol Press Corps.