

By: Representatives Lott, Chism, Fillingane, Moore To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 62

1 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION OF THE
2 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO PASS A PERMANENT BAN ON INTERNET ACCESS
3 TAXES.

4 WHEREAS, in 1998, and extended in 2001, Congress enacted the
5 Internet Tax Freedom Act in order to protect consumers that used
6 the Internet and to encourage more individuals to access the
7 Internet; and

8 WHEREAS, the legislation eliminated taxes on Internet access,
9 double taxation of a product or service bought over the Internet
10 and discriminatory taxes that treated Internet purchases
11 differently from other types of sales; and

12 WHEREAS, the moratorium on Internet access led to the rapid
13 growth of the Internet, which in turn brought good economic news;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, we live in an age of innovation, where the medium of
16 the Internet is sparking a sharp increase in entrepreneurship and
17 opportunity, the likes of which have not been seen since the
18 beginning of the Industrial Revolution; and

19 WHEREAS, enacting a tax Internet access will do significant
20 damage to the United States economy and decrease the standard of
21 living for all Americans; and

22 WHEREAS, on September 17, 2003, the United States House of
23 Representatives unanimously passed a permanent ban on all Internet
24 access taxes; however, when the bill came to the Senate floor,
25 pro-Internet tax senators used parliamentary and other underhanded
26 procedural tricks to force supporters of the legislation into
27 negotiations; and

28 WHEREAS, opponents of a tax free Internet used the
29 negotiations to stall and stop final passage of a permanent ban on
30 Internet access taxes in order to achieve their true desire and
31 tax the Internet:

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
33 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That the House of
34 Representatives requests that the senators from our state pass a
35 clean, permanent and technologically neutral extension of the
36 Internet tax moratorium.

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