

By: Senator(s) Hewes, Brown, Kirby, Moffatt, Nunnelee, Ross, Thomas, Clarke, Gollott, Doxey To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 520

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND
2 CITIZENS TO PROMOTE THE FAMILY INSTITUTION AS THE FUNDAMENTAL UNIT
3 OF MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY TO DESIGNATE 2004 AS THE "TENTH ANNIVERSARY
4 OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY."

5 WHEREAS, the President of the United States has recently and
6 repeatedly emphasized that the strength of the nation depends upon
7 the strength of the family, and has called upon all to "recommit
8 ourselves to strengthen our nation by strengthening our families";
9 and

10 WHEREAS, it is universally recognized that "the family is the
11 natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to
12 protection by society and the state"; and

13 WHEREAS, the United Nations has proclaimed the year 2004 as
14 the Tenth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in
15 order to, among other things, "increase awareness of family issues
16 among governments as well as in the private sector"; and

17 WHEREAS, the institution of the family is now being
18 undermined and threatened by various cultural, social, political,
19 legal and economic forces that are weakening the bonds between
20 husband and wife, parent and child and the generations, and
21 wreaking consequential harm and havoc throughout society:

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
23 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN,

24 That:

- 25 1. The State of Mississippi declares that the family exists
26 prior to the state and is the very foundation of our communities
27 and the bedrock of our nation, continuing to be the most
28 fundamental unit of society, the basis and bastion of civilization

29 and progress since time immemorial, and the continuing hope of
30 mankind.

31 2. The State of Mississippi declares that the family,
32 ideally founded on marriage between husband and wife is the cradle
33 of life and love for each new generation, the primary source of
34 identity, self-esteem and support, and the first and foremost
35 school of life, being uniquely suited to teach children integrity,
36 character, morals, responsibility, service and wisdom and thereby
37 transmitting timeless values to future generations.

38 3. The State of Mississippi recognizes the urgent need for
39 measures designed to promote family happiness and stability by
40 promoting loving and faithful marriages, and by encouraging
41 greater love and loyalty among all family members, increased
42 connection and communication between parents and children, and
43 more involvement of both fathers and mothers in raising children
44 in a positive and healthy environment and in teaching them values
45 and morals essential to personal fulfillment and the success of
46 society.

47 4. The State of Mississippi urges all citizens and
48 communities, and all organizations and institutions in all sectors
49 of society, to proactively promote those measures designed to
50 protect, defend and strengthen the family as the fundamental unit
51 of society.

52 5. The State of Mississippi further urges government
53 leaders, officials and representatives in all levels and branches
54 of government, with respect to all legislative, executive,
55 administrative and judicial action, to promote those measures
56 designed to protect, defend and strengthen the family as the
57 fundamental unit of society.

58 6. The State of Mississippi calls upon leaders and people of
59 influence in media, entertainment, education, business, the arts
60 and religion to help reverse the cultural bias against the family
61 and family values.

62 7. We further call upon all citizens and communities, and
63 all organizations and institutions in all sectors of society, to
64 help support, sponsor, organize and participate in appropriate
65 activities and event designed to promote and protect the family as
66 the fundamental unit of society in celebration of 2004 as the
67 "Tenth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family."

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
69 the Governor for dissemination to all appropriate state agencies,
70 local governmental agencies and forwarded to Mississippi
71 Educational Television for development and dissemination of public
72 service announcements.