

By: Senator(s) Jordan, Thomas, Jackson
(11th), Mettetal, Butler, Frazier, Dearing,
Gordon, King, Chaney, Chamberlin, Carmichael,
Harvey, Pickering, Little

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 602

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CAREER AND CIVIC
2 CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRED CARL, JR., OF GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI,
3 PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF VIKING RANGE CORPORATION.

4 WHEREAS, when the leaders of industry and economic
5 development in the Mississippi Delta are mentioned, the name Fred
6 Carl, Jr., is first on the list; and

7 WHEREAS, Fred Carl, Jr., is a native of Greenwood,
8 Mississippi, and attended Mississippi State University. He has a
9 Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from Delta State
10 University in Cleveland, Mississippi, and also attended graduate
11 school in City Planning at the University of Mississippi; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Carl is the founder and Chairman, President and
13 Chief Executive Officer of Viking Range Corporation, an industry
14 leading manufacturer of upscale kitchen appliances for the home,
15 which serves the North American market, as well as over 70 other
16 countries throughout the world. Prior to founding Viking, Mr.
17 Carl was a fourth generation building contractor, having been a
18 design/build general contractor throughout his entire adult
19 career. Mr. Carl is a member of the National Kitchen & Bath
20 Association Hall of Fame and was selected as the Mid-South
21 Entrepreneur of the Year in 1996. He is a member of the Advisory
22 Board of Directors of Trustmark National Bank of Greenwood,
23 Mississippi; and

24 WHEREAS, in the late 1970s Mr. Carl noticed that more and
25 more upscale consumers, and especially celebrities and serious
26 gourmets, were installing commercial restaurant ranges in the
27 kitchens of their homes. When Mr. Carl and his wife, Margaret,

28 wanted one of these for their own kitchen, Carl quickly realized
29 that true restaurant ranges were not suitable for home use due to
30 many factors such as high heat output and poor insulation, so Carl
31 designed a range that solved these problems yet retained the
32 heavy-duty cooking power of its commercial counterpart. He
33 founded Viking Range Corporation in 1984 to manufacture and
34 distribute the product, and Carl shipped his first Viking range in
35 January 1987. Seventeen years later, Viking continues to be the
36 leader in this segment of the United States major appliance
37 industry as the only manufacturer of a complete line of
38 ultra-premium, commercial-style appliances for the home. Carl's
39 company sells to every state in the United States through an
40 extensive distributor network, and Viking products have been sold
41 in over 70 international countries; and

42 WHEREAS, Mr. Carl's civic contributions are a matter of
43 record: He serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of
44 Directors of the Mississippi State University Foundation, the
45 Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Mississippi
46 Partnership for Economic Development, the Board of Directors of
47 the Greenwood-Leflore County Economic Development Foundation, and
48 is a member of the Governor's State Summit on Higher Education.
49 Mr. Carl also serves on the Advisory Board of the School of
50 Architecture, the Small Town Center Board and the Advisory Board
51 of the College of Business and Industry at Mississippi State
52 University. Mr. Carl served as the Chairman of the first
53 Mississippi Blues Commission, appointed by Governor Musgrove in
54 December 2003. The Alluvian, formerly the historic Hotel Irving
55 in Greenwood, was one of Mississippi's most endangered buildings
56 until Fred Carl, Jr., decided to preserve the building and
57 revitalize the property. In the Greenwood/Leflore County
58 Community, Fred is a member of Greenwood/Leflore Industrial Board,
59 a member of the Trustmark Board of Directors, Past-President of
60 the Greenwood Country Club and a member of the Vestry of the

61 Episcopal Church of the Nativity. He was recently named to the
62 Leflore County Hall of Fame and the Mississippi Business Hall of
63 Fame. Mr. Carl and his wife, Margaret, have one son, Chris, age
64 24, who is employed by one of the Viking subsidiaries; and

65 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
66 entrepreneurial successes and civic dedication of this home-grown
67 Mississippi businessman, whose contributions have brought honor to
68 his community and to the State of Mississippi:

69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
70 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
71 we do hereby commend the career and civic contributions of Mr.
72 Fred Carl, Jr., of Greenwood, Mississippi, President and Chief
73 Executive Officer of Viking Range Corporation, and extend to him
74 and his family the best wishes of the Legislature.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
76 Mr. Carl and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.