

By: Senator(s) White

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 546
(As Adopted by the Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE LONG CAREER OF PUBLIC
2 SERVICE OF ALBERT GALLATIN BROWN OF TERRY, MISSISSIPPI, 14TH
3 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF
4 ARCHIVES AND HISTORY TO ERECT AN HISTORICAL MARKER IN HIS HONOR.

5 WHEREAS, Albert Gallatin Brown of Terry, Mississippi, 14th
6 Governor of the State of Mississippi and the only Mississippian
7 ever to hold state judicial, legislative and executive offices, as
8 well as to serve in both branches of Congress without suffering a
9 single political defeat; and

10 WHEREAS, he is remembered as the Governor who fathered the
11 Mississippi public school system and Ole Miss, was a strong
12 supporter of States Rights and Manifest Destiny, was a leader so
13 popular that in 1860 many Mississippi newspapers were announcing
14 that he was the logical Democratic nominee for President of the
15 United States, and as a gentleman campaigner whose attacks on
16 political issues were impersonal and who, even among his intimate
17 friends, never spoke ill of any man; and

18 WHEREAS, he was born on May 31, 1813, in South Carolina.
19 When Albert was ten, his father, James Brown, moved to Copiah
20 County in Mississippi and became a large landowner. When Albert
21 was 16, his parents sent him to Mississippi College in Clinton,
22 from which he transferred three years later to Jefferson College
23 in Washington, Mississippi. Albert began the study of law at old
24 Gallatin, then the seat of Copiah County. Admitted to the bar
25 before he was of legal age, Albert joined his preceptor to form a
26 law partnership; and

27 WHEREAS, in 1834, at the age of 21, Albert Brown was elected
28 Brigadier General of Militia, thus launching an over 30-year

29 career in public service during which he was never defeated for
30 office, a record without parallel in Mississippi political
31 history; and

32 WHEREAS, in 1835, he was elected to the State Legislature as
33 a Representative from Copiah County and was chosen Speaker Pro
34 Tempore during his first term. He was reelected and served in the
35 Legislature until 1838; and

36 WHEREAS, in 1839, Brown was promoted by his loyal supporters
37 to a seat in Congress where he served one term. When he married
38 Roberta Young, daughter of General Robert Young of Virginia in
39 1841, he declined reelection to Congress. Instead he came home to
40 Mississippi, ran for Circuit Judge and was elected; and

41 WHEREAS, in 1843, Brown was elected Governor by 2,000 votes
42 over two opponents. There is no doubt that at this point Brown
43 was the most popular and influential man in the state. Under
44 Brown's leadership, Mississippi contributed more than her share of
45 soldiers in the Mexican War; and

46 WHEREAS, in 1845, Governor Brown was reelected for the second
47 time, but before his term expired he was again elected to
48 Congress, taking his seat in 1848 and remaining until 1851. In
49 1854, the State Legislature sent Brown to the U.S. Senate, but
50 when Mississippi seceded, Brown resigned from the Senate a week
51 before Jefferson Davis, returned home and organized the Brown
52 Rebels, a company that became a part of the 18th Mississippi
53 Regiment of the C.S.A. He was elected Captain of the company and
54 served in Virginia until he was elected a member of the
55 Confederate Senate. He represented Mississippi in that body from
56 February 1862 to March 1865; and

57 WHEREAS, Brown never returned to politics or public office
58 after the war. He died on June 12, 1880, and together with six
59 other Mississippi Governors is buried in Greenwood Cemetery in
60 Jackson, Mississippi; and

61 WHEREAS, Governor Brown was married twice, the first time in
62 1835 to Miss Elizabeth Frances Taliaferro, of Virginia, and the
63 second time in 1841, to Miss Roberta Young, who played such an
64 important part in his life as a national leader and in the life of
65 the little rural community in which they lived in Terry,
66 Mississippi. The name of Governor Brown's widow is honored with a
67 memorial window in a little antebellum Episcopal church in Terry;
68 and

69 WHEREAS, the proud citizens of Terry, Mississippi, are
70 interested in preserving the heritage of the town by erecting an
71 appropriate marker in honor of this faithful public servant who
72 was a resident from 1849 until his death in 1880, and it is
73 fitting to recognize one of the most interesting personalities in
74 all of the state's history:

75 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
76 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
77 we do hereby recognize the long career of public service of Albert
78 Gallatin Brown of Terry, Mississippi, the 14th Governor of the
79 State of Mississippi, and urge the Mississippi Department of
80 Archives and History to assist the citizens of Terry in erecting
81 an appropriate historical marker in his honor.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
83 the Mayor of the City of Terry, Mississippi, the Executive
84 Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and
85 be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.