

By: Representatives Ellis, Holland

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 80

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. J. CHARLES LEE FOR HIS  
2 CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE HIGHER  
3 EDUCATION SYSTEM AND EXPRESSING APPRECIATION OF THE LEGISLATURE  
4 UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, Mississippi State University will suffer a  
6 tremendous loss when Dr. J. Charles Lee, its current and  
7 seventeenth president, retires in the spring of 2006; and

8 WHEREAS, his tenure with Mississippi State University did not  
9 begin with his presidency in 2003, because Dr. Lee has previously  
10 served as Interim President; Vice President for Agriculture,  
11 Forestry and Veterinary Medicine; Dean of the College of  
12 Agriculture and Life Sciences; Dean of the College of Forest  
13 Resources; and Associate Director of the Mississippi Agricultural  
14 and Forestry Experiment Station for the university; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Lee's experience in higher education spans more  
16 than three decades and he has served in leadership positions at a  
17 number of universities such as North Carolina State University,  
18 University of Arkansas-Monticello and Texas A&M University; and

19 WHEREAS, he was Head of the Forestry Department at the  
20 University of Arkansas-Monticello and held a number of positions  
21 during his tenure with Texas A&M such as, Professor and Head of  
22 the Department of Forest Science in 1983; Associate Dean of the  
23 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Associate  
24 Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station in 1989; and from  
25 1990 to 1994, he served as Dean and Executive Associate Dean of  
26 the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Director of the  
27 Agriculture Experiment Station; and Interim Deputy Chancellor of  
28 the Texas A&M University System; and

29           WHEREAS, Dr. Lee gained his undergraduate degree in 1964 from  
30 North Carolina State University in forest management and returned  
31 to that university to complete his Ph.D. in forest genetics in  
32 1972; and

33           WHEREAS, Dr. Lee has been supported in his enthusiasm and  
34 dedication to the university by his wife, Mrs. Pat Lee; and

35           WHEREAS, Mrs. Lee has been a very energetic first lady of  
36 Mississippi State University and most recently led the "Bulldogs  
37 in Response" task force which coordinates the university's  
38 humanitarian response to Hurricane Katrina; and

39           WHEREAS, to commemorate the many contributions that this fine  
40 couple has made to higher education, Mississippi State University  
41 will create and present a book of personal letters from a wide  
42 network of friends and colleagues whose lives have been touched by  
43 Dr. and Mrs. Lee; and

44           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
45 the numerous contributions of those who educate the youth of our  
46 state:

47           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
48 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
49 THEREIN, That we do commend Dr. J. Charles Lee for his many  
50 contributions to Mississippi's higher education system and express  
51 our congratulations upon his retirement.

52           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
53 furnished to Dr. and Mrs. J. Charles Lee and to the members of the  
54 Capitol Press Corps.