

By: Senator(s) Chaney

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 523

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE ON A
2 STATEWIDE BUILDING CODE TO MEET FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS AND INSURANCE
3 STANDARDS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE
4 AND PRESCRIBE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES; TO REQUIRE THAT CERTAIN STATE
5 AGENCIES PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE STUDY COMMITTEE; AND FOR RELATED
6 PURPOSES.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
8 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

9 (1) There is hereby created the Study Committee on a
10 Statewide Building Code, "committee." The purpose of the
11 committee is:

12 (a) To establish minimum standards for construction to
13 respond to federal requirements for the Federal Emergency
14 Management Agency (FEMA) aid after a natural disaster such as a
15 tornado, fire, earthquake or hurricane, specifically the Hurricane
16 Katrina disaster of 2005;

17 (b) To address concerns from national insurers who are
18 not renewing property insurance because of a lack of building
19 standards in many areas of Mississippi; and

20 (c) To promote the health, safety and welfare of the
21 public.

22 (2) The Study Committee on a Statewide Building Code shall
23 consist of the following members:

24 (a) The Executive Director of the State Board of
25 Architecture;

26 (b) The Executive Director of the State Board of Public
27 Contractors;

28 (c) The Executive Director of the State Board of
29 Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors;

30 (d) The Dean of the Mississippi State University School
31 of Architecture;

32 (e) The Dean of the Mississippi State University School
33 of Engineering;

34 (f) The Executive Director of the Bureau of Building,
35 Grounds and Real Property Management of the Department of Finance
36 and Administration;

37 (g) The State Fire Marshal;

38 (h) The Mississippi Commissioner of Insurance;

39 (i) The Executive Director of the Mississippi Emergency
40 Management Agency;

41 (j) One (1) member of the Mississippi State Senate,
42 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

43 (k) One (1) member of the Mississippi House of
44 Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of
45 Representatives; and

46 (l) Two (2) citizen members, appointed by the Governor.

47 (3) The Executive Director of the State Board of
48 Architecture shall serve as the chairman of the committee.

49 (4) Nonlegislative members shall serve without salary or per
50 diem compensation; however, all members shall be entitled to
51 actual travel expenses as provided for in Section 25-3-41.

52 Legislative members shall be entitled to per diem, expense
53 allowance and mileage as authorized for committee meetings when
54 the Legislature is not in session.

55 (5) The committee shall develop a report to the Legislature
56 and the Governor to be delivered no later than December 1, 2006.

57 This report shall address at a minimum:

58 (a) A survey of other states to determine the types of
59 statewide building codes and enforcement systems which are in
60 place and which are successful;

61 (b) An investigation of existing model codes such as
62 the Standard Building Code, International Building Code and NFPA
63 Life Safety Code to determine what is appropriate for Mississippi;

64 (c) A survey of the laws of other states and
65 jurisdictions, including professional standards of care for
66 architects, engineers, fabricators, contractors and builders,
67 regarding minimal construction standards;

68 (d) A determination of the capacity of existing
69 agencies, including municipal and county building officials, which
70 now handle administrative and enforcement issues, to administer a
71 statewide building code, or the necessity of creating new agencies
72 to administer such a code;

73 (e) A recommendation regarding permit fee structures or
74 other enforcement means that would off-set implementation costs;

75 (f) A recommendation regarding the exemption of
76 successful established building codes in local jurisdictions; and

77 (g) Any recommended legislation to implement the
78 recommendations of the committee.

79 (6) The chairman shall have the authority to request staff
80 support from any state agency enumerated in this resolution to
81 assist the task force in carrying out its responsibilities.

82 (7) Upon presentation of its final report, the committee
83 shall be dissolved.