

By: Senator(s) Little, Browning, Butler, Carmichael, Clarke, Dawkins, Dearing, Frazier, Gollott, Harden, Hyde-Smith, Jackson (11th), Jordan, King, Mettetal, Moffatt, Morgan, Nunnelee, Posey, Robertson, Ross, Thomas, Walls, Wilemon, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 584

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CIVIC AND HUMANITARIAN
2 CONTRIBUTIONS OF MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY'S "FIRST LADY"
3 PATRICIA LEE.

4 WHEREAS, during the past 21 months as Mississippi State's
5 First Lady, Pat Lee has assumed an active and visible role in the
6 life of the university; and

7 WHEREAS, she has traveled widely throughout Mississippi and
8 across the nation, helping represent Mississippi State University
9 to alumni, professional organizations and business, industry and
10 agriculture groups; and

11 WHEREAS, Mississippi State University First Lady Pat Lee
12 chaired the "Bulldogs in Response" Task Force to help plan and
13 coordinate MSU's efforts to aid those affected by Hurricane
14 Katrina; and

15 WHEREAS, the "Bulldogs in Response" Task Force has conducted
16 seven trips to the Coast, involving about 200 faculty-staff
17 volunteers, and the relief teams have aided many of the 160 MSU
18 employees who live in the hardest-hit areas, along with families
19 of some of the 1,300 MSU students in coastal counties and others;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, under Mrs. Lee's leadership MSU volunteers helped
22 with the recovery of materials from the Armed Forces Retirement
23 Home at Gulfport, whose 600-plus residents were evacuated after
24 the hurricane. Other volunteers have worked at three Gulfport
25 Distribution Centers; and

26 WHEREAS, on Halloween, "Bulldogs in Response" volunteers from
27 the Starkville Campus joined MSU Extension Service Staff on the

28 Coast to help distribute 60,000 pieces of candy to more than
29 10,000 children in hurricane-affected communities; and

30 WHEREAS, students and staff donated 135 units of blood in an
31 on-campus effort organized by "Bulldogs in Response"; and

32 WHEREAS, with Mrs. Lee's support, the Extension Service,
33 Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, and College of
34 Veterinary Medicine provided feed, medical supplies and other
35 support to livestock and poultry producers; and

36 WHEREAS, the MSU Extension Service offered evacuees Internet
37 access through county extension offices as a way of helping locate
38 family and friends, and conducted a statewide survey to help
39 assess the needs in every county of the state; and

40 WHEREAS, MSU provided on-campus housing for more than 100
41 storm evacuees. MSU established expedited processes to allow
42 students enrolled at institutions hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina
43 to attend fall-semester classes at MSU. Out-of-state students
44 from affected institutions were treated as in-state students in
45 regard to tuition and fees. The university also provided
46 streamlined and expedited processes for academic drops and
47 withdrawals; and

48 WHEREAS, she is active in the MSU Women's Club and has been
49 heavily engaged this year in helping plan observances of
50 Mississippi State University's 125th Anniversary and this fall's
51 inauguration of her husband as MSU's 17th President; and

52 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lee served for nine years during the 1990s as
53 Executive Director of the International Livestock Congress, an
54 international educational program held each year in Houston,
55 Texas, in collaboration with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
56 and Texas A&M. She also has held administrative support positions
57 during much of the past 40 years at Texas A&M, Mississippi State,
58 and North Carolina State Universities; and

59 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lee is an avid proponent of women's athletics.
60 One of her first public appearances upon becoming First Lady was
61 as guest coach for the University's Women's Basketball Team; and

62 WHEREAS, she is devoted to her husband of 44 years, Dr. J.
63 Charles Lee, President of MSU, and her three grown children and
64 three grandchildren; and

65 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
66 dedicated civic and humanitarian service of this gracious lady who
67 symbolizes the cooperative spirit of Mississippi State University:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
69 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
70 we do hereby commend and congratulate Mississippi State
71 University's "First Lady" Patricia Lee for her outstanding citizen
72 and humanitarian service to the State of Mississippi, particularly
73 for her leadership in coordinating the recovery and relief efforts
74 by Mississippi State University in response to Hurricane Katrina,
75 and we extend to her and her family the best wishes of the
76 Legislature in their future endeavors.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
78 Mrs. Patricia Lee at appropriate campus ceremonies and be
79 forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher
80 Learning and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.