

By: Representative Robinson (84th)

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO CREATE A LEGISLATIVE STUDY
2 COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE NEED AND FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING
3 DESTINATION CAMPING RESORT AREAS FOR PURPOSES OF SCENIC NATURE
4 TRAILS ACCESSIBLE ON HORSEBACK, ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES AND HIKING
5 AND ESTABLISHING AREAS FOR BIRD AND WILDLIFE VIEWING, CAMPING
6 AREAS AND FACILITIES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 WHEREAS, the Legislature realizes the importance of our
8 state's abundant natural and wildlife resources; and

9 WHEREAS, the Legislature realizes the value of including
10 these destination camping resort areas with full amenities to
11 attract tourism by accommodating recreational vehicles and the
12 value to be benefited from promoting family and recreational
13 activities as a learning tool within the state by fostering a
14 hands-on, first-hand experience approach to become more attuned
15 with nature and its vast potentiality; and

16 WHEREAS, through the development of designated areas for
17 scenic nature trails, viewing areas, camping areas and facilities
18 in the state's parks accessible by means of natural hiking,
19 horseback riding and all-terrain vehicle trails, tourism will be
20 promoted in our state:

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
23 THEREIN, That a legislative study committee is created to study
24 the need and feasibility of establishing designated public areas
25 for purposes of scenic nature trails accessible on horseback,
26 all-terrain vehicles and hiking, and establishing area for bird
27 and wildlife viewing, camping areas and facilities.

28 (1) The legislative study committee shall be composed of the
29 following eight (8) members:

30 (a) Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the
31 House;

32 (b) Two (2) members appointed by the Lieutenant
33 Governor;

34 (c) Two (2) members appointed by the Governor;

35 (d) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
36 Development Authority Tourism Division, or a designated appointee
37 thereof; and

38 (e) The Executive Director of the Mississippi
39 Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, or a designated
40 appointee thereof.

41 (2) After the members are appointed, the membership shall
42 meet on a date mutually agreed upon by a majority of the members
43 for the purpose of organizing the committee and establishing rules
44 for transacting its business and keeping records. A majority of
45 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum at all
46 committee meetings. An affirmative vote of a majority of the
47 members present and voting shall be required in the adoption of
48 rules, resolutions, reports and in any other actions taken by the
49 committee. All members of the committee shall be notified in
50 writing of all regular and special meetings of the committee,
51 which notices shall be mailed at least five (5) days before the
52 date of the meetings.

53 (3) The study committee shall make a written report of its
54 findings and recommendations, and shall file its report with the
55 Clerk of the House, no later than December 1, 2007. Upon filing
56 its report, the study committee shall be dissolved.

57 (4) Members of the task force who are not legislators, state
58 officials or state employees shall be compensated at the per diem
59 rate authorized by Section 25-3-69 and shall be reimbursed in
60 accordance with Section 25-3-41 for mileage and actual expenses
61 incurred in the performance of their duties. Legislative members
62 of the task force shall be paid from the contingent expense funds

63 of their respective houses in the same manner as provided for
64 committee meetings when the Legislature is not in session.
65 However, no per diem or expense for attending meetings of the task
66 force will be paid to legislative members of the task force while
67 the Legislature is in session. No task force member may incur per
68 diem, travel or other expenses unless previously authorized by
69 vote, at a meeting of the task force, which action shall be
70 recorded in the official minutes of the meeting. Nonlegislative
71 members shall be paid from any funds made available to the task
72 force for that purpose.

73 (5) In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the
74 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
75 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state.