

By: Representative Robinson (84th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

1 A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE
2 NEED AND FEASIBILITY OF ADDRESSING PROBLEMS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
3 OFFICERS AND FIRE FIGHTERS RELATING TO LOSS OF INCOME FROM
4 ON-THE-JOB RELATED INJURIES; TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE A
5 WRITTEN REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE DECEMBER
6 1, 2007; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 WHEREAS, the Legislature realizes that our state's law
8 enforcement and fire fighter personnel are grossly underpaid; and

9 WHEREAS, the Legislature realizes that we ask these
10 individuals to put themselves directly in harm's way on a daily
11 basis, risking bodily injury and even death to protect our lives
12 and property; and

13 WHEREAS, most law enforcement officers and fire fighters must
14 work at least one other part-time job to support themselves and
15 their families financially; and

16 WHEREAS, if a law enforcement officer or fire fighter is
17 injured on duty, he or she may be on short-term disability, which
18 proves to be an extreme financial hardship on the family:

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
20 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That a House study
21 committee is created to study the need and feasibility of
22 addressing problems of law enforcement officers and fire fighters
23 relating to loss of income from on-the-job related injuries. The
24 House study committee shall be composed of nine members of the
25 House of Representatives, including the Chairman of
26 Appropriations, the Chairman of Insurance and seven members
27 appointed by the Speaker of the House.

28 After the members are appointed, the membership shall meet on
29 a date mutually agreed upon by a majority of the members for the

30 purpose of organizing the committee and establishing rules for
31 transacting its business and keeping records. A majority of
32 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum at all
33 committee meetings. An affirmative vote of a majority of the
34 members present and voting shall be required in the adoption of
35 rules, resolutions, reports and in any other actions taken by the
36 committee. All members of the committee shall be notified in
37 writing of all regular and special meetings of the committee,
38 which notices shall be mailed at least five days before the date
39 of the meetings. The committee shall hold a minimum of three
40 regular meetings.

41 The study committee shall make a written report of its
42 findings and recommendations, and shall file its report with the
43 Clerk of the House, no later than December 1, 2007. Upon filing
44 its report, the study committee shall be dissolved.

45 For attending the meetings of the committee, each member
46 shall be paid, from the Contingent Expense Fund, per diem
47 compensation in the amount authorized by Section 25-3-69,
48 Mississippi Code of 1972, and a mileage allowance and an expense
49 allowance in the amount authorized by Section 5-1-47, Mississippi
50 Code of 1972. However, no per diem compensation, mileage
51 allowance or expense allowance shall be paid for attending
52 meetings of the committee while the Legislature is in session, and
53 no per diem compensation, mileage allowance or expense allowance
54 shall be paid without prior approval of the proper committee.

55 All expenses incurred by and on behalf of the committee shall
56 be paid from funds made available by the House Management
57 Committee from the Contingent Expense Fund, from any funds
58 appropriated for the purpose of this resolution and from any
59 grants or contributions made to the committee for its purpose.

60 In carrying out the provisions of this resolution, the
61 committee may utilize the services, facilities and personnel of
62 all departments, agencies, offices and institutions of the state.