

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Williamson, Jackson To: Rules
(11th), Harden, Walls, Simmons, Jordan,
Horhn, Butler, Turner, Thomas

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 604

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MARCH 22, 2007, AS
2 "MISSISSIPPI WATER DAY 2007" TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER
3 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD
4 WATER DAY OBSERVATION.

5 WHEREAS, "Coping with Water Scarcity" is the theme for the
6 United Nations World Water Day 2007, which is celebrated each year
7 on the 22nd of March. The theme highlights the significance of
8 cooperation and importance of an integrated approach to water
9 resource management of water at both international and local
10 levels; and

11 WHEREAS, this theme was decided among all members of United
12 Nations World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden, in August 2006; and

13 WHEREAS, World Water Day in 2005 marked the start of a new
14 United Nations International Decade for Action on water. The
15 Water for Life Decade 2005-2015 will give a high profile to
16 implementing water-related programs. This UN initiative will
17 boost the chances of achieving international water-related goals
18 and the United Nations Millennium Declaration; and

19 WHEREAS, the World Water Day observation focuses on water and
20 poverty alleviation. Water and sanitation are critical factors to
21 alleviate poverty and hunger, for sustainable development, for
22 environmental integrity and for human health. The first water
23 decade -- from 1981 to 1990 -- brought water to over a billion
24 people and sanitation to almost 77 million; however, the job was
25 only half done. There are still almost 1.1 billion people without
26 adequate access to water and 2.4 billion without adequate
27 sanitation; and

28 WHEREAS, equity and rights, cultural and ethical issues are
29 essential to be addressed when dealing with limited water
30 resources. Imbalances between availability and demand, the
31 degradation of groundwater and surface water quality,
32 intersectoral competition, interregional and international
33 disputes, all center around the question of how to cope with
34 scarce water resources; and

35 WHEREAS, while we are a water rich state, it is essential
36 that the State of Mississippi become aware of the national and
37 international issues of water resource management and coping with
38 water scarcity:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
40 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
41 we do hereby designate March 22, 2007, as "Mississippi Water Day
42 2007" to highlight the importance of water resource management in
43 conjunction with the annual United Nations World Water Day
44 observation, and urge all citizens to increase awareness of water
45 conservation programs.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
47 the State Department of Education for distribution to the public
48 schools and to the State Department of Health for distribution to
49 the general public and be made available to the Capitol Press
50 Corps.