

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Williamson, Jackson (11th), Harden, Walls, Simmons, Jordan, Horhn, Butler, Turner, Thomas, Frazier, Gollott, Jackson (32nd), White To: Rules

## 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.