

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 628

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER
2 2007 AS "MISSISSIPPI ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH"
3 AND URGING ALL CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN AWARENESS ACTIVITIES.

4 WHEREAS, 74% of Americans say that addiction to alcohol has
5 had some impact on them at some point in their lives, whether it
6 was their own personal addiction, that of a friend or family
7 member, or any other experience with addiction. A 63% majority of
8 Americans also say that addiction to either drugs or alcohol has
9 had a great impact on their lives; and

10 WHEREAS, Recovery Month is sponsored by the Substance Abuse
11 and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Center for
12 Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). CSAT, created in October 1992
13 by a Congressional mandate, provides national leadership in the
14 Federal government's effort to improve the lives of individuals
15 and their families affected by alcohol and drug abuse. CSAT works
16 to improve access to clinically sound, cost-effective addiction
17 treatment to reduce the health and social cost to our communities
18 and the nation. Such factors as inadequate capacity, limited
19 public and private health insurance benefits and stigma have
20 contributed to the gap between the number of people who need
21 treatment and the number who receive it; and

22 WHEREAS, Recovery Month is an annual observance that takes
23 place during the month of September. The Recovery Month
24 observance highlights the societal benefits of substance abuse
25 treatment, lauds the contributions of treatment providers and
26 promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse in all its
27 forms is possible. The observance also encourages citizens to

28 take action to help expand and improve the availability of
29 effective substance abuse treatment for those in need. Each year
30 a new theme, or emphasis, is selected for the observance; and

31 WHEREAS, stigma and discrimination present obstacles and can
32 be a mark of disgrace to those with substance use disorders who
33 need access to treatment facilities, and for those who want to
34 reestablish their place in the community by entering the
35 workforce; and

36 WHEREAS, educating our community about how substance use
37 disorders affect children, families and all community members is
38 essential to overcoming stigma and discrimination; and

39 WHEREAS, we must recognize the achievement of those who seek
40 out treatment services and ensure that such services are readily
41 available to those who need assistance; and

42 WHEREAS, substance use disorders are a treatable, yet serious
43 health care problem, and we can take steps to address it and so
44 build a stronger, healthier community; and

45 WHEREAS, this year's Recovery Month theme, "Join the Voices
46 for Recovery: Build a Stronger, Healthier Community," encourages
47 us all to learn about how we can help those suffering from
48 substance use disorders receive treatment, so we can strengthen
49 our community; and

50 WHEREAS, to help achieve this goal, the U.S. Department of
51 Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health
52 Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
53 (CSAT), the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and
54 the Mississippi Department of Mental Health invite all residents
55 of Mississippi to participate in Mississippi Alcohol and Drug
56 Addiction Recovery Month:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
58 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
59 we do hereby designate the month of September 2007 as "Mississippi
60 Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month," and encourage all

61 citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs,
62 activities and ceremonies supporting this year's theme, "Join the
63 Voices for Recovery: Build a Stronger, Healthier Community."

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
65 the Mississippi Board and Department of Mental Health and the
66 federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) for
67 distribution to alcohol/drug recovery, treatment and support
68 facilities and groups in Mississippi and be made available to the
69 Capitol Press Corps.