

By: Senator(s) Dearing, Burton, Gollott,  
Bryan, Branning, Kirby, Frazier, Horhn,  
Carmichael, Tollison, Simmons (13th),  
Witherspoon, Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 627

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE  
2 MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF FORMER STATE AID  
3 ENGINEER JOE RALPH CLARK OF SUMMIT, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of  
5 former State Aid Engineer Joe Ralph Clark of Summit, Mississippi,  
6 on October 14, 2017; and

7 WHEREAS, Joe was a graduate of McComb High School and  
8 Mississippi State University. He began his engineering career  
9 with the Florida Road Division in Tallahassee. He later moved to  
10 Jackson, Mississippi, where he worked for a number of  
11 engineer-related firms; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1980, he began working for the State Aid Road  
13 Division, the agency responsible for building and maintaining  
14 county roads and bridges. After a few years, he became Bridge  
15 Engineer and developed procedures for structurally rating and  
16 posting 12,000 bridges. He developed and detailed long-span  
17 prestressed beam and concrete flat slab standard bridges and  
18 software for box culvert hydraulic analysis and curve bridge



19 geometry. He also administered statewide bridge inspections,  
20 including underwater inspections; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1988, he was appointed State Aid Engineer by  
22 Governor Bill Allain and re-appointed by Governor Ray Mabus and  
23 Governor Kirk Fordice. After 25 years with State Aid, he retired  
24 and began working for consultants in the Jackson, Mississippi,  
25 area and later in Huntsville, Alabama; and

26 WHEREAS, Joe leaves to cherish his memories his wife of 55  
27 years, Senate Committee Assistant Kay W. Clark; children, Nicole  
28 Clark Orr (Stephen) and Kim Clark Craney (Rodger); grandchildren:  
29 Claudia Orr Rosser (Charlie), Stephen Orr, Jr., Jenna Nicole  
30 Craney and Natalie Craney; and one great-granddaughter, Ruby  
31 Nicole Rosser. Also surviving Mr. Clark is one brother, Jimmy  
32 Dale Clark; and

33 WHEREAS, Joe will be sorely missed. Joe rose up courageously  
34 and with gentlemanly honor to life's opportunities and challenges.  
35 While he has departed this earth, his worldly impact on his many  
36 friends and family and his professional service to his state will  
37 never be forgotten:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
39 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
40 we do hereby extend the condolences of the Mississippi Legislature  
41 to the bereaved family of former State Aid Engineer Joe Ralph  
42 Clark of Summit, Mississippi.



43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
44 the surviving family of Joe Clark, forwarded to the Mississippi  
45 Transportation Commission, and made available to the Capitol Press  
46 Corps.

