

By: Senator(s) Jackson (32nd), Branning,  
Clarke, Dearing, DeBar, Jackson (11th),  
Jordan, Simmons (13th), Witherspoon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 602

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ENERGETIC PUBLIC  
2 SERVICE OF NESHOPA COUNTY'S JERRY SMITH AS THE FIRST  
3 AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO BE ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
4 ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

5 WHEREAS, Mississippians owe Neshoba County's Jerry Smith a  
6 debt of gratitude for his service over the last several decades;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, on January 24, 2019, Jerry Smith was elected as  
9 President of the Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts  
10 (MACD). Smith joined the Neshoba County Soil and Water  
11 Conservation District's Board as a Deputy Commissioner in 1992 and  
12 became a Commissioner in 1996. Smith is the first Neshoba County  
13 native and first African-American to serve as the MACD President,  
14 and is the first African-American to serve in that position  
15 nationally; and

16 WHEREAS, Jerry W. Smith was born in Winston County,  
17 Mississippi, to John W. and Edna Houston Smith, the middle child  
18 of three. He grew up on his parent's farm and attended Camille  
19 Street High School. After graduating from high school and Alcorn



20 State University, Jerry worked for the International Paper Company  
21 as a Forest Technician and later a Lumber Yard Supervisor; and

22 WHEREAS, Jerry started M & S Service, a landscaping and  
23 ground maintenance company, and also did tree planting and tree  
24 and stump removal until retirement in 1992; and

25 WHEREAS, as part of his civic contribution, Jerry was  
26 appointed to the Board of Trustees of East Central Community  
27 College in 2018, where he now serves as Vice Chairman of the  
28 board; and

29 WHEREAS, in 1970, he was married to Paulene Hartzog and the  
30 couple were blessed with two children and are now the grandparents  
31 of four grandchildren. He is a member of Goodway Missionary  
32 Baptist Church, where he serves as a Deacon; and

33 WHEREAS, we pay tribute to the public service and civic  
34 energy of a Mississippi citizen who is an example to all in our  
35 state:

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
37 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
38 we do hereby recognize the energetic public service of Neshoba  
39 County's Jerry Smith as the first African-American to be elected  
40 as President of the Mississippi Association of Conservation  
41 Districts, and extend to Jerry and his family the best wishes of  
42 the Legislature.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
44 Jerry Smith, forwarded to the Mississippi Association of



45 Conservation Districts, and made available to the Capitol Press  
46 Corps.

