

By: Senator(s) Tollison, Kirby, Blackmon,
Barnett, Blackwell, Branning, Browning,
Burton, Butler, Carmichael, Carter, Caughman,
Clarke, Dearing, Doty, Fillingane, Frazier,
Gollott, Harkins, Hill, Hopson, Hudson,
Jackson (15th), Jackson (32nd), Massey,
McDaniel, McMahan, Michel, Moran, Polk,
Seymour, Simmons (13th), Simmons (12th),
Turner-Ford, Wilemon, Witherspoon, Younger,
Parker, Jordan, Jackson (11th), Whaley

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 659

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO COMMEND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR TATE
2 REEVES FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE
3 MISSISSIPPI SENATE.

4 WHEREAS, known for strong integrity, Tate Reeves was elected
5 Mississippi's 38th Lieutenant Governor in 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, reelected in 2015 as Mississippi's Lieutenant
7 Governor, Tate Reeves has led the 52-member Senate with a focus on
8 keeping government spending under control, reforming education and
9 making Mississippi a better place to raise a family. Under his
10 leadership, Mississippi has a balanced budget that spends more on
11 education and adequately funds other priorities while reducing
12 taxpayers' overall debt burden; and

13 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves will complete his
14 second term as President of the Mississippi Senate; and

15 WHEREAS, previously Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves was
16 elected as Mississippi's 53rd Treasurer in 2003 and reelected to a
17 second term four years later with 61% of the vote, the highest
18 percentage of any candidate running for statewide office. He was



19 the first Republican and youngest Treasurer in the state's
20 history; and

21 WHEREAS, under Lieutenant Governor Reeves' leadership, the
22 Legislature approved several measures to make Mississippi an even
23 better place to do business. Reeves believes government should
24 create an environment to encourage the private sector to create
25 more jobs. In an effort to make the state's tax policy flatter
26 and fairer, he proposed the largest tax cut in state history
27 through the Taxpayer Pay Raise Act, which lowers the personal
28 income tax; allows for self-employed Mississippians to increase
29 deductions; and eliminates the corporate franchise tax. Under the
30 plan adopted by the Legislature, every taxpayer saw a tax cut. He
31 supported helping job creators increase investment in their
32 businesses by reducing the unemployment tax rate and boosting
33 investment in workforce training at community and junior colleges.
34 Under his leadership, the Legislature also made the state more
35 competitive in a global marketplace by allowing businesses to
36 claim a tax credit on inventory held in the state, which will
37 encourage companies to invest more capital in creating jobs.
38 Legislators also reformed the state's Workers' Compensation Law to
39 ensure a fairer and impartial relationship between the worker and
40 employer with provisions to better define the employee's choice of
41 physician, implement stronger measures against workplace drug and
42 alcohol use and increase certain benefits. These changes boosted
43 Mississippi's reputation as a place to do business; and



44 WHEREAS, Reeves successfully advocated for more transparent
45 school district ratings, which led to a new grading system for
46 schools based on A, B, C, D and F. The first steps toward choice
47 were taken with the creation of public charter schools and
48 scholarships for students with special needs. Reeves fought to
49 boost the state's literacy rate with legislation to end social
50 promotion of students who cannot read at grade level. After
51 decades of legislators talking about school district
52 consolidation, Reeves took action by pushing for administrative
53 consolidation, significantly reducing the number of districts in
54 Mississippi. The Education Commission of the States awarded
55 Mississippi the 2016 Frank Newman Award for State Innovation for
56 these transformational reforms to improve student learning.
57 Mississippi has made record investments in education spending and
58 enacted reforms to save money, strengthen achievement, and clearly
59 communicate school performance; and

60 WHEREAS, Tate Reeves fought for transparency on how agencies
61 spend taxpayers' dollars. Agencies are now required to post
62 budget requests on the legislative budget website and disclose
63 each source of revenue. Stronger reporting requirements were
64 placed on taxpayer-funded incentive programs. Reeves secured a
65 commitment from the Department of Finance and Administration and
66 the State Personnel Board to develop statewide contracts for
67 services, not just commodities, which will help state agencies
68 take advantage of bulk purchasing power and reduce costs. He



69 pushed passage of the Attorney General's "Sunshine Act," which
70 requires an open and transparent process for awarding legal
71 contracts. Reeves pushed several measures to strengthen public
72 safety and make Mississippi a safe place to raise a family. The
73 Legislature has passed laws to allow for the prosecution of
74 attempted murder and to closely monitor sex offenders using CPS
75 devices. He is committed to protecting Mississippians' Second
76 Amendment Rights by supporting laws to reduce the cost of
77 concealed carry permits and clarify the limits on the ability of
78 cities and counties to restrict the carrying of firearms. Reeves'
79 initiative to help school districts hire law enforcement for
80 campus protection will place more officers in schools; and

81 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor Reeves is past Chairman of the
82 Republican Lieutenant Governors Association. He was named one of
83 the Top 40 Politicians Under 40 by *The Washington Post*. He is a
84 member of the Inaugural Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellows Program
85 focused on education issues. Reeves was named a 2013 Charter
86 Champion by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.
87 Reeves received the 2012 State Legislative Achievement Award from
88 the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform for passage of the
89 Attorney General's "Sunshine Act." He was named Legislator of the
90 Year by the Mississippi Municipal League in 2012. Reeves has been
91 named a "Rising Star(s) in the Republican Party" by *Rising Tide*
92 magazine - the publication of the Republican National Committee.
93 He also was selected by the Aspen Institute's Rodel Fellowships in



94 Public Leadership as one of the "Top Young Elected Officials" to
95 its Fourth Class of Aspen-Rodel Fellows. Reeves was recognized by
96 his National Association of State Treasurers' (NAST) peers as the
97 recipient of the Jesse M. Unruh Award which recognized his
98 outstanding service to the association, the profession and to his
99 state; and

100 WHEREAS, Reeves is a Rankin County native and a graduate of
101 Florence High School. He is an Honors Graduate of Millsaps
102 College and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics. Reeves holds
103 the Chartered Financial Analyst designation (CFA) and is a member
104 of the CFA Society of Mississippi and the CFA Institute, an
105 organization that leads the investment industry by setting the
106 highest standards of ethics and professional excellence. In 1996,
107 he was the recipient of the Mississippi Society of Financial
108 Analysts Award. Reeves and his wife, Elee Williams Reeves, a
109 Tylertown native, are the proud parents of three daughters, Sarah
110 Tyler, Elizabeth Magee and Madeline Tate. The Reeves' family
111 attends Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church; and

112 WHEREAS, Tate Reeves' service has been marked by his
113 commitment to success and recognized leadership, sound judgment
114 and fairness. He has set the highest standard in all of his many
115 roles, as a father, husband, citizen, statesman and leader in the
116 Mississippi Senate and as a true friend:

117 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
118 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That



119 we do hereby commend and recognize Lieutenant Governor Tate
120 Reeves, whose outstanding service enriched everyone with whom he
121 was associated, and we wish Tate and his family much success in
122 their future endeavors.

123 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
124 Tate Reeves and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

