

By: Representative Tullos

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL 12-17, 2021, AS
2 "MISSISSIPPI MOSQUITO AND WEST NILE VIRUS AWARENESS WEEK" TO
3 PROMOTE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVELY MANAGING
4 MOSQUITOES AND THE PREVENTION OF WEST NILE VIRUS.

5 WHEREAS, warming temperatures combined with late spring rains
6 create ideal conditions for mosquitoes to breed, including the
7 mosquitoes that transmit West Nile Virus; and

8 WHEREAS, mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus, which is
9 caught by them from infected birds, can transfer it to humans and
10 other animals, and humans infected with the virus, particularly
11 children, people with weakened immune systems, and the elderly,
12 may become seriously ill; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2018, Mississippi had 50 human cases of West Nile
14 Virus, with no deaths, and in 2017, the state had 63 cases with
15 two deaths; and

16 WHEREAS, most cases reportedly occur between July and
17 September, and infected persons may experience symptoms including
18 fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, rash, muscle weakness or
19 swollen lymph nodes; and



20 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that all public schools
21 teach prevention of West Nile Virus in the health, science and
22 biology classes and include insect repellent as part of the school
23 supplies that are in each classroom at the start of the school
24 year, particularly for the elementary grades; and

25 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
26 and acknowledge matters of significance such as managing
27 mosquitoes, which has been a function of the State Department of
28 Health, and West Nile Virus awareness, which is a related public
29 health issue:

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
31 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
32 THEREIN, That we do hereby designate April 12-17, 2021, as
33 "Mississippi Mosquito and West Nile Virus Awareness Week" to
34 promote awareness of the importance of effectively managing
35 mosquitoes and the prevention of West Nile Virus and encourage
36 the State Board of Health, the State Board of Education and the
37 University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) to use this
38 awareness week to disseminate information to schools and families
39 regarding effective mosquito management.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
41 furnished to the State Board of Health, State Board of Education,
42 UMMC and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

