

By: Senator(s) Seymour, Barnett, Butler
(38th), England, Jackson (11th), Simmons
(13th), Thompson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 515

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 MISSISSIPPI-ALABAMA SEA GRANT CONSORTIUM ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
3 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND RECOGNIZING ITS ACHIEVEMENTS.

4 WHEREAS, the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC)
5 became the nation's first bi-state Sea Grant Program in 1972; and

6 WHEREAS, MASGC has served the bi-state region of Mississippi
7 and Alabama through university-based coastal science research,
8 engagement and education programming for 50 years; and

9 WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Legislature supports MASGC's
10 research, communications, education, extension and legal programs
11 to coastal communities that lead to the responsible use of ocean
12 and coastal resources in Mississippi, Alabama and the Gulf of
13 Mexico region through informed personal, policy and management
14 decisions; and

15 WHEREAS, MASGC's focus areas are Environmental Literacy and
16 Workforce Development, Healthy Coastal Ecosystems, Resilient
17 Communities and Economies, and Sustainable Fisheries and
18 Aquaculture; and



19 WHEREAS, MASGC members include Jackson State University,
20 Mississippi State University, The University of Mississippi, The
21 University of Southern Mississippi, University of South Alabama,
22 Auburn University, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, The University of
23 Alabama and The University of Alabama at Birmingham; and

24 WHEREAS, MASGC commits to interdisciplinary environmental
25 scholarship and community-based natural-resource management; and

26 WHEREAS, MASGC supports educational programs that foster
27 environmental literacy and workforce skills in science,
28 technology, engineering, mathematics and other disciplines related
29 to coastal resources that are important to communities that MASGC
30 serves; and

31 WHEREAS, MASGC research programming supports undergraduate
32 and graduate education in fields related to coastal resources; and

33 WHEREAS, MASGC is a leader in local, regional and national
34 approaches to understanding and maintaining healthy ecosystems for
35 the current and future generations; and

36 WHEREAS, MASGC works with the growing coastal populations to
37 apply the best available scientific knowledge to address
38 challenges, such as increased demands on resources, vulnerability
39 to storms and a changing climate, that face coastal and inland
40 communities; and

41 WHEREAS, MASGC improves the safety and quality of seafood,
42 educates consumers on choosing nutritious and sustainable products



43 and expands sustainable practices for seafood harvest and
44 aquaculture production:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
46 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
47 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Mississippi-Alabama Sea
48 Grant Consortium for 50 years of service to Mississippi, Alabama,
49 the Gulf of Mexico region and the nation.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby recognize the
51 achievements of all the current and past staff supported by the
52 MASGC who contributed to fulfilling MASGC's mission of providing
53 integrated university- and college-based research, communications,
54 education, extension and legal programs to coastal communities
55 that lead to the responsible use of ocean and coastal resources in
56 Mississippi, Alabama and the Gulf of Mexico through informed
57 personal, policy and management decisions.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby encourage MASGC to
59 continue to support the best science and related education at
60 Mississippi and Alabama colleges and universities to inform public
61 and private decision-making in order to enhance the practical use
62 and conservation of coastal and marine resources while also
63 creating a sustainable economy and environment.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby encourage MASGC to
65 continue its partnership model in addressing economic
66 opportunities and environmental issues facing coastal communities
67 in Mississippi and Alabama.



68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we do hereby request that the
69 Secretary of the Senate transmit an official copy of this
70 resolution to MASGC and the Mississippi Department of Marine
71 Resources members, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

