

By: Senator(s) Williams

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 519

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT PUBLIC SAFETY
2 TELECOMMUNICATORS ARE FIRST RESPONDERS IN MISSISSIPPI AND MAY BE
3 RECOGNIZED AS SUCH.

4 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators are part
5 of the critical infrastructure of the public safety framework and
6 trained as communication officers pursuant to Section 19-5-353,
7 Mississippi Code of 1972; and

8 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators play a
9 critical role in emergency response as the first line of
10 communication for persons needing police, fire or medical
11 response, and as a lifeline to police, fire and medical response
12 personnel in the field; and

13 WHEREAS, these individuals are challenged on a daily basis,
14 dealing with stressful situations involving life and death, and
15 handle such situations with compassion, empathy and
16 professionalism; and

17 WHEREAS, while employing their experience and training to
18 recognize a critical piece of information, 9-1-1 and public safety



19 telecommunicators are often communicating with people in states of
20 great distress, harm, fear or injury; and

21 WHEREAS, 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators operate
22 specialized systems for tracking field responders, identifying the
23 location of 9-1-1 callers, and for communicating emergencies; and

24 WHEREAS, when responding to reports of missing, abducted and
25 sexually exploited children, the information obtained and actions
26 taken by 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators form the
27 foundation for an effective response; and

28 WHEREAS, when a hostage-taker or suicidal person calls 9-1-1,
29 the first contact is with a 9-1-1 or public safety
30 telecommunicator whose negotiation skills can prevent the
31 situation from worsening; and

32 WHEREAS, during mass casualty or other injurious incidents,
33 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators coach callers through
34 first aid and deliver advice to prevent further harm, all while
35 collecting vital information to provide situational awareness for
36 responding emergency personnel; and

37 WHEREAS, the performance of 9-1-1 and public safety
38 telecommunicators has a profound effect on the outcome of the call
39 for service, timeliness and effectiveness of the operators can be
40 the difference between life and death; and

41 WHEREAS, without 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators,
42 adequate public safety cannot be achieved:



43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
44 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, that
45 9-1-1 and public safety telecommunicators are first responders in
46 the State of Mississippi and may be recognized as such.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate and
48 the Clerk of the House of Representatives are authorized to make
49 appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution
50 to the public and the Capitol Press Corps.

