

By: Senator(s) Butler (38th), Jackson (11th), Simmons (12th), Hickman, Norwood, Frazier, Thomas, Jordan, Turner-Ford, Barnett, Barrett, Butler (36th), Horhn, Blount

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 590

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY
2 OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CITY OF MCCOMB, MISSISSIPPI.

3 WHEREAS, we join the citizens of McComb and Pike County,
4 Mississippi, in celebrating the historic 150th Anniversary of the
5 establishment of one of Mississippi's finest and best "The City of
6 McComb City"; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1872, Colonel H.S. McComb, President of The New
8 Orleans, Jackson and Great Northern Railroad Company located in
9 New Orleans, needed more land for expansion for his growing
10 railroad company. With that end in view, he purchased land where
11 the City of McComb City now stands, and moved his railroad company
12 offices and shops there. The area of land where McComb now sits
13 was a strip of raw land covered with pine timber and dense
14 undergrowth of vines and bushes. The land was situated on the
15 mainline of railroad between the Towns of Summit and Magnolia.
16 McComb was chartered by the State of Mississippi in 1872; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1873, the Mississippi Valley Company took over
18 the land for the promotion of a town site. Lots were laid out,



19 sold, and residences and business buildings were erected. During
20 the same year, Captain J.J. White, a veteran of the Civil War,
21 established a large saw mill on an extensive tract of land on the
22 southern outskirts of the new village. The J.J. White lumber
23 interests were the first in Mississippi to operate steam
24 locomotives on tramways for hauling logs from the forests to the
25 mill. In addition to his lumber interests, which in the course of
26 years grew to mammoth proportions, Captain White was also involved
27 in many other activities that led to the development of McComb.
28 He was an officer in the principal banking institutions,
29 established the McComb Cotton Mill, and took an active part in
30 public affairs in general. As a result of his active role in his
31 church and community, J.J. White Presbyterian Church was built as
32 a memorial to him; and

33 WHEREAS, new stores began to appear supplementing the
34 railroad commissary. More residences were built for the employees
35 of both the shops and mill. McComb had become a city. As years
36 went on, the railroad became the Illinois Central. With its
37 enlarged shops, its heavy through and local traffic, its increased
38 and increasing force in every department, the business of the City
39 of McComb grew to accommodate the demands of the company's
40 employees and their families; and

41 WHEREAS, an early industry in the city was the McComb Ice
42 Company owned by X.A. Kramer Industries. This plant was the
43 largest single unit ice factory in the world. At its peak, the



44 plant produced 200 tons of ice per day and had storage for about
45 20,000 tons. In addition to supplying the local demand, the
46 Kramer plant furnished large quantities of ice for the
47 refrigerated railcars of the Illinois Central Railroad to
48 facilitate transporting trainloads of fruits and vegetables to the
49 northern markets; and

50 WHEREAS, the railroad is still important to the City of
51 McComb. The Illinois Central is now the Canadian National
52 Railroad, and the mainline still runs through the heart of the
53 city. The railroad is a vital lifeline for many industries. The
54 Amtrak Station in McComb provides access to New Orleans and
55 Chicago; and

56 WHEREAS, from its beginning as a city built around a growing
57 railroad industry, McComb now has a very diverse economy with a
58 major regional healthcare center and retail trade center. You
59 will find renewal in the downtown area of McComb with fine dining,
60 office space, housing and shopping; and

61 WHEREAS, McComb is strategically located 100 miles north of
62 New Orleans, 80 miles from Jackson, and 75 miles from Hattiesburg
63 on the transportation routes of Interstate 55 and US Highway 98.
64 McComb is located in close proximity to Southwest Mississippi
65 Community College as well as several major universities such as
66 The University of Southern Mississippi, Louisiana State
67 University, Tulane University, The University of New Orleans,
68 Jackson State University and Alcorn University. McComb is



69 surrounded by the natural beauty of scenic rivers and streams, and
70 nestled in the rolling, pine-covered hills of Southwest
71 Mississippi; and

72 WHEREAS, anchored by a strong religious sense of community,
73 and recently awarded with the most sought-after designation, "A
74 Certified Retirement Community," there is an added new spirit of
75 rebirth that prevails, where both young and old alike are partners
76 in a new progress, for all the promise and purpose that lies
77 ahead. The real promise is one for the future, which has never
78 been brighter, as McComb boasts a fine regional library system,
79 excellent public schools, more than fifty active churches
80 representing fourteen denominations, two local hospitals with over
81 ninety physicians, a Heart Center, a Cancer Center, and a wide
82 variety of shopping, entertainment venues and festival
83 attractions; and

84 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this city
85 with a broad and diverse history that is one of the leading
86 communities in our state:

87 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
88 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
89 we do hereby commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of
90 the City of McComb, Mississippi, congratulate the City of McComb
91 on this landmark event and extend our best wishes for continued
92 economic progress.



93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
94 the Mayor and City Council of the City of McComb and the McComb
95 Chamber of Commerce and be made available to the Capitol Press
96 Corps.

