

By: Representatives Carpenter, Byrd

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 70

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI
2 NATIONAL GUARD AND THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN FOR CELEBRATING
3 THEIR TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PARTNERSHIP UNDER THE STATE PARTNERSHIP
4 PROGRAM.

5 WHEREAS, the Mississippi National Guard and the Republic of
6 Uzbekistan entered into a formal partnership in 2012, and over the
7 span of 10 years, the Mississippi National Guard and Uzbekistan
8 have conducted over 200 events together, to include 68 Subject
9 Matter Expert Exchanges, 44 Key Leader Engagements, 51 Bilateral
10 Conferences, and multiple partnerships between Mississippi
11 universities and Uzbek agencies and institutes of higher learning;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Governor of Mississippi, the
14 Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce and the Adjutant General
15 of Mississippi escorted a military and trade delegation to
16 Uzbekistan to discuss further opportunities for partnering with
17 the Mississippi National Guard and the Republic of Uzbekistan; and

18 WHEREAS, the President of Uzbekistan and several other
19 high-level officials and ministers of government have pledged



20 their support and commitment to Mississippi and the Mississippi
21 National Guard; and

22 WHEREAS, a Sister City Agreement was signed by the Mayor of
23 Clinton, Mississippi, and the Mayor of Zarafshan, Uzbekistan; and

24 WHEREAS, for four consecutive years since 2019, the Ministry
25 of Defense of the Republic of Uzbekistan has participated in the
26 Exercise Southern Strike (SSTK), a tactical level exercise
27 integrating conventional, allied, and Special Operations Forces
28 (SOF), which operates across multiple domains throughout the
29 Southeastern United States, maximizing combat readiness through
30 integrated, tailored, joint and coalition scenarios based on
31 current global crises, and encourages decentralized execution
32 allowing a high degree of mission command from planning through
33 execution; and

34 WHEREAS, Uzbekistan soldiers have competed shoulder to
35 shoulder with Mississippi National Guardsmen in the Best Warrior
36 Competition for three years, and won overall in 2020 and 2022, in
37 addition to winning the International Division in 2021; and

38 WHEREAS, five Special Operations training events have been
39 conducted between the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group
40 (Airborne); and

41 WHEREAS, in 2021, when 24 Uzbekistan soldiers participated in
42 an airborne operation alongside members of the 2nd Battalion, 20th
43 Special Forces Group (Airborne) from the Mississippi National
44 Guard it was the first time Uzbek and Mississippi Special



45 Operations Forces conducted joint airborne operations, a
46 monumental occasion observed by the Chief of the National Guard
47 Bureau and the Director of the Air National Guard; and

48 WHEREAS, in 2022, the Mississippi National Guard was awarded
49 Partnership of the Year Runner-Up by the Chief of the National
50 Guard Bureau for its partnership with the Republic of Uzbekistan;
51 and

52 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
53 encourage and support the establishment of partnerships in
54 furtherance of international diplomacy and protections of the
55 liberties of democracy:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
57 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
58 commend and congratulate the Mississippi National Guard and the
59 Republic of Uzbekistan on 10 years of successful partnership, and
60 express our greatest hopes and aspiration for continued expansion
61 of diplomacy and success in the years ahead.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
63 furnished to Ambassador Javlon Vakhobov for the Republic of
64 Uzbekistan, Major General Janson Boyles for the Mississippi
65 National Guard, Lieutenant Colonel Amanda Villeret for the State
66 Partnership Program, and to the members of the Capitol Press
67 Corps.

