

By: Senator(s) Blount, Butler (38th),
Frazier, Michel

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND THANKING THE MISSISSIPPI RURAL
2 WATER ASSOCIATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE COOPERATIVE FOR THEIR
3 ASSISTANCE DURING THE JACKSON WATER CRISIS.

4 WHEREAS, on Monday night, August 29, 2022, a state of
5 emergency for the City of Jackson was declared due to the failure
6 of its water system; and

7 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
8 established an Incident Command Center at the O.B. Curtiss Water
9 Treatment Plant and a collaborative group was brought together to
10 begin planning and executing the water restoration process. This
11 group consisted of MEMA, Mississippi State Department of Health
12 (MSDH), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the City of
13 Jackson, among others. As part of the emergency response, the
14 Incident Command Center requested the assistance of the
15 Mississippi Rural Water Association's (MsRWA) emergency response
16 cooperative, known as the Rural Water Emergency Assistance
17 Cooperative (RWEAC); and



18 WHEREAS, on August 30, 2022, upon receiving the request,
19 MsRWA CEO, Kirby Mayfield, immediately activated RWEAC and issued
20 a request for assistance from water utilities throughout the
21 state; and

22 WHEREAS, with Jackson being a Class "A" water plant, and
23 Mississippi having few Class "A" systems and operators, the
24 request also went to the neighboring states of Alabama, Florida
25 and Georgia. Through the RWEAC cooperative, mutual aid is already
26 set up with these neighboring states for emergencies; and

27 WHEREAS, those assisting from within Mississippi included the
28 cities of Winona, Columbia and Meridian. Rural water associations
29 assisting were Bear Creek Water Association, Copiah Water
30 Association, Jackson County Utility Authority and MsRWA.
31 Out-of-state assistance came from the Florida Rural Water
32 Association and their member utilities, the Alabama Rural Water
33 Association and their member utilities, and the Georgia Rural
34 Water Association and their member utilities; and

35 WHEREAS, this team was quickly activated and worked in the
36 unified command in a very short time and helped to restore service
37 to the City of Jackson by September 5th, 2022, and by September
38 15th, the boil water advisory was lifted; and

39 WHEREAS, these extraordinary efforts by these teams are
40 highly exemplary and to be commended:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, That on behalf of the citizens of the City of Jackson



43 and the State of Mississippi, we do hereby commend and thank the
44 Mississippi Rural Water Association Emergency Response Cooperative
45 for their assistance during the Jackson water crisis.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
47 MsRWA CEO Kirby Mayfield, forwarded to the Governor and the Mayor
48 of the City of Jackson and made available to the Capitol Press
49 Corps.

