

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Barnett, Butler
(38th), England, Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI
2 NATIONAL GUARD AND THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN ON THE OCCASION OF
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

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

13 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Governor of Mississippi, the
14 Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture 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 have pledged their support and
20 commitment to Mississippi and the Mississippi National Guard; and

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

23 WHEREAS, the Uzbek Ministry of Defense has participated in
24 Exercise SOUTHERN STRIKE for four consecutive years (2019-2022);
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Uzbekistan Soldiers have competed
27 shoulder-to-shoulder with Mississippi National Guardsmen in the
28 Best Warrior Competition for three years and won overall in 2020
29 and 2022 and won the International Division in 2021; and

30 WHEREAS, Five Special Operations training events have been
31 conducted between the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group
32 (Airborne); and

33 WHEREAS, in 2021, 24 Uzbek Soldiers participated in an
34 airborne operation alongside members of the 2nd Battalion, 20th
35 Special Forces Group (Airborne) from the Mississippi National
36 Guard and was the first time Uzbek and Mississippi Special
37 Operations Forces conducted joint airborne operations. This
38 monumental occasion was observed by the Chief of the National
39 Guard Bureau and the Director of the Air National Guard; and

40 WHEREAS, in 2022, the Mississippi National Guard was awarded
41 Partnership of the Year Runner-Up by the Chief of the National



42 Guard Bureau for their partnership with the Republic of
43 Uzbekistan:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
45 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
46 Mississippi National Guard and the Republic of Uzbekistan on 10
47 years of successful partnership.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be provided to
49 Ambassador Javlon Vakhobov for the Republic of Uzbekistan, Major
50 General Janson Boyles for the Mississippi National Guard, Lt.
51 Colonel Amanda Villeret for the State Partnership Program, and to
52 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

