

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.

