

By: Senator(s) Johnson, Fillingane, DeBar,  
Polk, Barnett, Blackwell, Butler (38th),  
Hopson, Jackson, McCaughn, Seymour

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 57

1 A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
2 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICER  
3 TRAINING CORPS (AFROTC) DETACHMENT 432.

4 WHEREAS, we join the students, faculty and administration of  
5 The University of Southern Mississippi in celebrating a landmark  
6 event in the development of student military officer training on  
7 campus; and

8 WHEREAS, The University of Southern Mississippi established  
9 its Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) program in  
10 1969 by housing Air Force ROTC Detachment 432; and

11 WHEREAS, the Air Force ROTC program is designed to educate  
12 and train students to become officers in the United States Air  
13 Force and the United States Space Force while simultaneously  
14 earning their bachelor's degrees; and

15 WHEREAS, the Commissioning Class of 2023 culminates the  
16 University's 50th Commissioning Class, which will include five  
17 graduates: Mr. Logan Lando, Mr. Noel Parrett, Mr. Christian  
18 Rapetti, Mr. Mert Sahin and Ms. Julianna Vaughn; and



19 WHEREAS, Southern Miss is proud to have been a part of the  
20 journey for the 584 Air and Space Force officers that received  
21 their 2nd Lieutenant rank at AFROTC Detachment 432. Some  
22 graduates from the program have reached the military rank of  
23 General while others held specialized roles as U-2 pilots and  
24 Special Tactics Officers; and

25 WHEREAS, AFROTC Detachment 432 graduates represent what is  
26 extraordinary about Mississippi and the University of Southern  
27 Mississippi....Southern Mississippi To The Top!; and

28 WHEREAS, AFROTC Detachment 432 is led by Commander Lieutenant  
29 Colonel Sheena Puleali'i. Its First Commissioning Class: May  
30 1973; Total Commissioned Officers: 584; Total Cadets (current):  
31 31; and Class of 2023: 5; and

32 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
33 Mississippi higher education program whose mission is training  
34 officers for a strong and free America:

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
36 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commemorate the 50th Anniversary of  
37 The University of Southern Mississippi Air Force Reserve Officer  
38 Training Corps (AFROTC) Detachment 432, and extend to these ROTC  
39 students and instructors our best wishes for success after  
40 commissioning activities.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
42 AFROTC Detachment 432 Commander Lieutenant Colonel Sheena  
43 Puleali'i and USM President Dr. Joseph S. Paul, forwarded to the



44 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, and  
45 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

