

By: Representative Foster

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 35

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE EXCELLENCE OF MISSISSIPPI TRIO
2 IN OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL TRIO DAY ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024
3 AND DECLARING WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2024, AS MISSISSIPPI TRIO
4 DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

5 WHEREAS, TRIO is the first set of federal programs to address
6 the serious social, economic and cultural barriers to higher
7 education in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, today, more than 800,000 students in nearly 3,000
9 programs at host institutions, both urban and rural, make higher
10 education a reality for students who are often the first members
11 of their family to enroll in and graduate from college; and

12 WHEREAS, on February 24, 1986, Congress adopted House
13 Concurrent Resolution 278, which declared and designed February
14 28, 1986, as "National TRIO Day," and that the achievements of the
15 TRIO programs should be recognized; and

16 WHEREAS, TRIO emerged from an understanding that low-income,
17 first-generation students need more than financial aid to overcome
18 the systematic obstacles in the way of their acquiring a college
19 degree; and



20 WHEREAS, National TRIO Day is meant to focus the nation's
21 "attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults
22 aspiring to improve their lives if they are to become contributing
23 citizens of the country, and to the talent which will be wasted if
24 that investment is not made"; and

25 WHEREAS, by recognizing the untapped talent and potential of
26 low-income, first-generation Americans, with diverse racial and
27 economic backgrounds, TRIO programs open the doors to educational
28 access and opportunity for all every day; and

29 WHEREAS, On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, the Mississippi
30 Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP)
31 will converge on the Mississippi State Capitol with over 150 TRIO
32 participants and staff in celebration of TRIO Day, to share the
33 successes of its programs with legislators, participate in tours
34 of the Capitol and to take photos with legislators from their
35 legislative districts; and

36 WHEREAS, the celebration of National TRIO Day is an
37 opportunity to recognize the needs of disadvantaged young people
38 and adults who are working to improve their lives and the lives of
39 those in their communities, and the chance to honor their hard
40 work and renew our commitment to investing in those disadvantaged
41 communities; and

42 WHEREAS, Mississippi hosts 56 TRIO projects which serve more
43 than 10,700 participants, with a total financial commitment of



44 more than \$18,000,000 from the United States Department of
45 Education; and

46 WHEREAS, on the 38th anniversary of National TRIO Day we are
47 compelled to proclaim our commitment to educational equity,
48 access and opportunity for all regardless of racial or economic
49 background, and highlight the achievements of the programs and
50 beneficiaries of those programs in communities across the State of
51 Mississippi; and

52 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
53 acknowledge the outstanding commitment of such prolific
54 organizations as TRIO and the litany of innovative programs it
55 facilitates throughout the State of Mississippi and the nation to
56 promote postsecondary education accessibility:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
58 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
59 declare February 21, 2024, as Mississippi TRIO Day at the Capitol
60 in advance of the observance of National Trio Day on February 25,
61 2024, and encourage all citizens to observe its recognition, and
62 to celebrate the life-changing programs it administers as sources
63 of educational access and opportunity for low-income,
64 first-generation students.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
66 furnished to the president of the Mississippi Association of
67 Educational Opportunity Program on behalf of the association, and
68 to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

