

By: Senator(s) Robinson, Branning, Frazier,
Michel, Parker, Sparks

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 96

1 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MISSISSIPPI
2 ECONOMIC COUNCIL, LEADERSHIP MISSISSIPPI.

3 WHEREAS, Leadership Mississippi is an annual program of the
4 Mississippi Economic Council (MEC) conducted by the M.B. Swayze
5 Foundation. Participants, selected by a committee of MEC's
6 Leadership Mississippi Alumni, work together in a training program
7 that combines individual study, group sessions, and project
8 experience in using leadership skills. Leadership Mississippi is
9 endowed through a generous contribution by the late J.C. and Annie
10 Redd. J.C. Redd was Chairman of the Mississippi Economic Council
11 in 1973-1974 when the program began; and

12 WHEREAS, Leadership Mississippi is the second-oldest
13 statewide leadership program in the nation. Since its inception
14 in 1974, Leadership Mississippi has graduated more than 1,300
15 alumni active in Mississippi business and politics. Mississippi's
16 top business executives, community leaders, and elected officials
17 have participated in Leadership Mississippi as a way to expand
18 their networks and possibilities for future success; and



19 WHEREAS, Leadership Mississippi's goal is to develop and
20 maintain a network of Mississippians committed to strengthening
21 the state's quality of life. Leadership Mississippi's objectives
22 are to identify Mississippians who have demonstrated leadership
23 potential through job-related and community activities, to train
24 participants by sharpening their leadership skills and to motivate
25 participants by increasing awareness of community and state
26 challenges, involving participants in problem-solving activities
27 on issues of current interest, and providing a network of leaders
28 across the state who are actively involved; and

29 WHEREAS, participation in Leadership Mississippi is
30 determined by a competitive application process with the number of
31 applicants far exceeding the number of available openings. A
32 selection committee will carefully review all Leadership
33 Mississippi applications. The committee is particularly
34 interested in the extent to which the applicant has been involved
35 in his/her community and in the applicant's interest in continuing
36 and/or expanding involvement at home and on a broader scale; and

37 WHEREAS, preference will be given to candidates with a
38 demonstrated history of:

- 39 • Reliability;
- 40 • Positions with a company or an organization which show a
41 progression toward leadership or management;
- 42 • Significant achievement or accomplishments in career or
43 community service;



- 44 • Status or position with company or organization;
- 45 • Work experience or other experience indicative of
- 46 involvement in one or more areas of business, community, civic or
- 47 government service;
- 48 • Additional consideration will be given to senior-level
- 49 leaders of organizations and graduates of local-based leadership
- 50 programs; and

51 WHEREAS, Leadership Mississippi seeks to have class diversity

52 among all ethnic groups, ages, genders, professions, backgrounds

53 and geographic areas of the state; and

54 WHEREAS, Leadership Mississippi welcomes applicants of all

55 walks of life and varying business backgrounds, ranging from

56 corporate-level executives, entrepreneurs, emerging leaders and

57 community engagers and more. Their goal is to develop and

58 maintain a network of Mississippians committed to improving the

59 quality of life in our state. Ideal candidates are those who are

60 passionate not only about their home community but about the

61 success of our state; and

62 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this

63 landmark event in the history of a Mississippi business community

64 program that has brought honor to our state:

65 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

66 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby celebrate the 50th Anniversary of

67 Mississippi Economic Council, Leadership Mississippi and

68 congratulate the staff of the MEC on a successful civic and



69 business leadership program that contributes to securing
70 Mississippi's future.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
72 Scott Waller, CEO of the Mississippi Economic Council and the
73 staff of Leadership Mississippi, forwarded to the President of the
74 Mississippi Economic Council and its Board of Directors, and made
75 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

