

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.

