

By: Representatives Sanders, Johnson,
Osborne

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MISSISSIPPI
2 VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY ON THE COMMEMORATION OF ITS 75TH
3 ANNIVERSARY, AND COMMENDING THE INSTITUTION'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
4 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND THE NATION.

5 WHEREAS, Mississippi Valley State University, originally
6 established as Mississippi Vocational College by enactment of the
7 Mississippi Legislature in 1946, has played a pivotal role in
8 higher education within the State of Mississippi for 75 years; and

9 WHEREAS, the institution was founded with the express purpose
10 of training teachers for rural and elementary schools and
11 providing vocational training, beginning its legacy of academic
12 excellence and service to the community; and

13 WHEREAS, the groundbreaking ceremony on February 19, 1950,
14 marked the beginning of an institution that opened its doors to
15 205 in-service teachers in the summer of 1950 and 14 regular
16 students during its inaugural academic year, 1950-51, under the
17 leadership of its first president, Dr. James Herbert White; and

18 WHEREAS, Mississippi Valley State University has undergone
19 transformative growth, including its name change to Mississippi



20 Valley State College in 1964 and subsequently to Mississippi
21 Valley State University in 1974, reflecting its expanding mission
22 and academic offerings; and

23 WHEREAS, "Valley," whereby it is affectionately referenced by
24 current and prospective students, alumni and supporters alike, has
25 contributed significantly to higher education by offering diverse
26 undergraduate and graduate programs, including its first master's
27 degree program in 1976 and current offerings in fields such as
28 environmental health, criminal justice, business administration,
29 and education; and

30 WHEREAS, Mississippi Valley State University's leadership has
31 been marked by a succession of visionary presidents, culminating
32 in the tenure of its eighth and current president, Dr. Jerryl
33 Briggs, Sr., who, like his presidential predecessors, continues to
34 advance the university's mission under the mantra, "ONE GOAL. ONE
35 TEAM. ONE VALLEY . . . IN MOTION"; and

36 WHEREAS, MVSU has extended its reach through off-campus
37 centers such as the Greenwood Center and Greenville Higher
38 Learning Center, thereby enhancing access to education in the
39 Mississippi Delta; and

40 WHEREAS, Mississippi Valley State University remains
41 dedicated to its mission of providing quality undergraduate and
42 graduate programs to a diverse community of learners, contributing
43 to the betterment of the Mississippi Delta and beyond through
44 teaching, learning, research and service; and



45 WHEREAS, Valley's accreditation by the Southern Association
46 of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and other
47 prestigious bodies, ensures the university's performance at the
48 highest standards of academic excellence; and

49 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to acknowledge
50 and commend the exceptional investments made by our state's public
51 institutions of higher learning, of Mississippi Valley State
52 University's esteemed caliber, which endeavor daily to equip our
53 state's most valuable human capital with the necessary academic
54 and professional skills to navigate life and achieve their goals:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
56 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
57 THEREIN, That we do hereby recognize and honor Mississippi Valley
58 State University on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary, commend
59 the institution's contributions to the State of Mississippi and
60 the nation, and extend heartfelt congratulations to its students,
61 faculty, alumni and administration for their achievements over the
62 past 75 years.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
64 furnished to Mississippi Valley State University and to the
65 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

