

By: Representative Creekmore IV

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
2 DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH
3 ANNIVERSARY AND RECOGNIZING ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION,
4 INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Mississippi State University (MSU) Department of
6 Landscape Architecture is celebrating 60 years of excellence in
7 education, research and service, marking a significant milestone
8 in its legacy of shaping the landscapes of Mississippi and beyond;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the roots of the department trace back to 1878 with
11 the establishment of Mississippi's Agricultural and Mechanical
12 College as a land-grant institution, dedicated to advancing
13 agricultural sciences and practical education; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1879, coursework in Landscape Gardening was
15 introduced, paving the way for the study of landscape design,
16 which would evolve into the discipline of Landscape Architecture;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, in 1920, Mississippi State College (formerly
19 Mississippi A&M) was authorized to offer a degree in Horticulture,



20 further incorporating Landscape Design coursework from 1920 to
21 1964 within the horticultural curriculum; and

22 WHEREAS, the transformation of the program took a significant
23 step in 1964, when the Landscape Architecture curriculum
24 originated within the Horticulture Department, setting the
25 foundation for what would become an independent academic unit; and

26 WHEREAS, in 1967, the degree in Landscape Architecture
27 transitioned from a Bachelor of Science to a Bachelor of Landscape
28 Architecture (B.L.A.), with the course prefix changing from
29 Horticulture (HO) to Landscape Architecture (LA) and that same
30 year, the first B.L.A. degree was awarded; and

31 WHEREAS, the department continued to grow with the
32 development of curricula in Landscape Contracting and Parks and
33 Recreation Administration in 1971, achieving its first
34 accreditation in 1973 and securing its status as a department
35 within the College of Agriculture in 1975; and

36 WHEREAS, since its establishment, the Department of Landscape
37 Architecture has played an essential role in training
38 professionals who integrate land-use planning, environmental
39 conservation and innovative design, addressing regional issues
40 such as erosion control, wetland conservation and historic
41 preservation; and

42 WHEREAS, the department's influence expanded through the
43 introduction of a Master of Landscape Architecture (M.L.A.)
44 program in 2000, with the first M.L.A. degree awarded in 2002 and



45 achieving full accreditation in 2008, ensuring that graduate-level
46 education in landscape architecture met national standards of
47 excellence; and

48 WHEREAS, the department has continued to evolve with the
49 renaming of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics to the
50 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in 1996, the move to a
51 state-of-the-art facility in 2003 and the addition of
52 concentrations in Landscape Business Management and Landscape
53 Ecosystem Management in 2024; and

54 WHEREAS, in 2024, the department underwent a significant
55 transformation with its renaming to the Department of Landscape
56 Architecture and Environmental Design and the absorption of the
57 Environmental Science major, further reinforcing its commitment to
58 sustainability and interdisciplinary education; and

59 WHEREAS, the department has hosted prestigious events such as
60 the National Collegiate Landscape Competition in 2016 and 2023,
61 strengthening its reputation as a leader in landscape education
62 and professional development; and

63 WHEREAS, the university will celebrate the department's
64 history and success on September 18 through 20, 2025, honoring its
65 achievements and contributions to landscape architecture,
66 environmental stewardship and sustainable land-use planning; and

67 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
68 recognize and commend institutions such as the Mississippi State
69 University Department of Landscape Architecture, which has



70 demonstrated a longstanding commitment to academic excellence,
71 community engagement and environmental sustainability:

72 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
73 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
74 commend the Mississippi State University Department of Landscape
75 Architecture upon the occasion of its 60th anniversary, recognize
76 its significant contributions to education and environmental
77 stewardship and extend best wishes for its continued success in
78 the years to come.

79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
80 furnished to the Mississippi State University Department of
81 Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design and to the members
82 of the Capitol Press Corps.

