

By: Senator(s) Jordan, Jackson, Hickman,  
Brumfield, Blackmon, Simmons (13th), Frazier,  
Norwood, Butler, Barnett, England

To: Rules

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MISSISSIPPI VALLEY  
2 STATE UNIVERSITY ON THE COMMEMORATION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY, AND  
3 COMMENDING THE INSTITUTION'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF  
4 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 teaching in rural and elementary schools  
11 and providing vocational training, beginning its legacy of  
12 academic 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, 1950-1951, 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



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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Mississippi Valley State University remains dedicated to its mission of providing quality undergraduate and graduate programs to a diverse community of learners, contributing to the betterment of the Mississippi Delta and beyond through 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, we acknowledge and commend the exceptional  
50 investments made by our state's public institutions of higher  
51 learning:

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

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
60 Mississippi Valley State University and to the members of the  
61 Capitol Press Corps.

