

By: Senator(s) Thames

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 645  
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE  
2 STRINGER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR QUICK RESPONSE TO THE  
3 MASSIVE FIRE IN DOWNTOWN TAYLORSVILLE ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1999.

4 WHEREAS, a quick and massive response by the Stringer  
5 Volunteer Fire Department and by other area volunteer fire  
6 departments on Sunday, January 31, 1999, prevented a building fire  
7 from destroying downtown Taylorsville, Mississippi; and

8 WHEREAS, more than 20 units from Smith and surrounding  
9 counties responded to a call for help as the old Melroy Theater, a  
10 familiar Taylorsville landmark which housed the May Appliance  
11 Center, became engulfed in flames that destroyed the building; and

12 WHEREAS, with assistance from volunteer fire departments from  
13 Taylorsville, Mize, Raleigh, Sylvarena, Richton, Shady Grove,  
14 Hebron, Pleasant Ridge, Powers, Soso, Myrick, Moselle, Mill Creek,  
15 Boggy Creek, Northeast Jones, Sharon, Glade, Johnson, Mendenhall,  
16 Magee, Collins, Hot Coffee, East Covington and Bay Springs, the  
17 Stringer Volunteer Fire Department battled the blaze until about  
18 2:00 a.m. Monday, February 1, 1999; and

19 WHEREAS, according to official reports, flames had broken  
20 through the roof of the building and blazed to a height of over 20  
21 feet, threatening to quickly spread to other structures due to the  
22 radiation of so much heat; and

23 WHEREAS, firemen saturated the walls with water from a bucket  
24 truck that Entergy had provided to prevent the fire from spreading  
25 until help arrived, and it would have been worse if not for the  
26 incredible response from other fire departments; and

27       WHEREAS, personnel from the Mize Police Department, Smith  
28   County Sheriff's Department, Soso Police Department, Jones County  
29   Sheriff's Department and Jasper County Sheriff's Department, along  
30   with the Pine Belt Chapter of the American Red Cross and the AMR  
31   Ambulance Service also responded to provide assistance, and all  
32   are to be praised for their work; and

33       WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the hard  
34   work and quick response of all these Mississippians who helped  
35   their neighbor when they were most needed, by preventing a  
36   building fire from destroying a Mississippi town:

37       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE  
38   SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we  
39   do hereby recognize and commend the Stringer Volunteer Fire  
40   Department for their quick response to the massive fire in  
41   downtown Taylorsville on Sunday, January 31, 1999, and express our  
42   appreciation to all other units that assisted in this effort.

43       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
44   presented to the Chief of the Stringer Volunteer Fire Department  
45   and the Mayor of Stringer, on behalf of all personnel responding  
46   to the fire, and that copies be made available to the Capitol  
47   Press Corps.