

By: Senator(s) Gollott, Hewes, Cuevas, Lee,  
Dawkins

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 596

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING CHARLES EDWARD WEEMS, SR.,  
2 FOR HIS PIONEERING CONTRIBUTIONS IN ESTABLISHING THE SEAFOOD  
3 INDUSTRY IN MISSISSIPPI AND FOR HIS SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY AND  
4 STATE.

5 WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., is a pioneer in the  
6 seafood business on the Mississippi Gulf Coast; and

7 WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., began his career working  
8 as a fisherman with his brother on his father's shrimp boat, the  
9 "Nettie"; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1937, he and his brother built their first shrimp  
11 and oyster boat the "Thomas D. Kirnan" after the gentleman who  
12 loaned them the money to build the boat; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1939, he and his brother built their second  
14 shrimp boat the "Bobbie Charles"; and

15 WHEREAS, over the years he and his brother built 12 shrimp  
16 boats, which were used in their growing seafood business; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1941, he and his brother formed the seafood  
18 company, the WEEMS BROS. SEAFOOD CO., located on the back bay of  
19 Biloxi; and

20 WHEREAS, showing the resiliency of his pioneering spirit, he  
21 rebuilt his seafood company after it was destroyed by a hurricane  
22 in 1937 and again in 1969 after it was destroyed by the infamous  
23 hurricane, "Camille"; and

24 WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., was an innovator in the  
25 seafood industry and was the first oyster processor to install an  
26 automated oyster shucking machine in Mississippi; and

27 WHEREAS, his tenacity, work ethic and innovative ideas earned  
28 him the respect of his peers in the seafood industry; and



29           WHEREAS, this was evident in the mutual respect and  
30 admiration shared between Charles and his fellow pioneer in the  
31 seafood industry, neighbor and close personal friend, Houston C.  
32 Gollott; and

33           WHEREAS, he brought his sons into the Weems Bros. Seafood  
34 Co., Laddie in 1962, Ronnie in 1965, and Charles Jr. in 1974; and

35           WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., sold Weems Bros. Seafood  
36 Co. to his three sons in 1984; and

37           WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., was active in state and  
38 community affairs; and

39           WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., was appointed to the  
40 Seafood Commission which was also known as the Marine Conservation  
41 Commission for eight years and served as chairman of the  
42 commission for four years; and

43           WHEREAS, Charles Edward Weems, Sr., was appointed to the  
44 federal draft board by President John F. Kennedy and he served on  
45 the board for four years; and

46           WHEREAS, he also served on the Biloxi Housing Authority  
47 Board; and

48           WHEREAS, he and his wife Glenna were married for 63 years,  
49 until her death in 1966; and

50           WHEREAS, at the age of 87, he is now retired and living at  
51 his home on the back bay of Biloxi, less than one block from the  
52 seafood business that he founded; and

53           WHEREAS, he is enjoying his retirement with his large family:  
54 sons, Charles Jr. and his wife, Joan; Jerry and his wife, Anita;  
55 Laddie and his wife, Barbara; Ronnie and his wife, Jeanell; and  
56 daughter, Sonja and her husband, Matt; nine grandsons: Charles  
57 III, Gene, Dean, Darren, Ronnie Jr., Jarrod, Greg, Josh and  
58 Jonathan; three granddaughters: Stacey, Alicia and Hannah; 12  
59 great-grandchildren: Caitlin, Lindsey, Shelby, Laura, Samantha,  
60 Adam, Nathan, Ryan, Shawn, Devon, Jacob and Austin; and



61           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature to recognize and  
62 commend the contributions and dedicated service of the citizens of  
63 the State of Mississippi:

64           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
65 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
66 we do hereby commend Charles Edward Weems, Sr., for his vision and  
67 contributions as a pioneer in establishing the seafood industry in  
68 Mississippi and for his dedicated service to his community and  
69 state.

70           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
71 presented to Mr. Charles Edward Weems, Sr.

