

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.

