

By: Senator(s) White, Michel, Johnson  
(19th), Gollott, Nunnelee, Moffatt, King,  
Chaney, Gordon, Stogner, Ross, Kirby,  
Dickerson, Carlton, Browning, Lee,  
Carmichael, Burton, Minor, Mettetal, Scoper,  
Hewes, Harvey, Farris, Cuevas, Huggins,  
Little, Walls, Walden, Furniss, Canon

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 53

1 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING CONGRESS TO GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO  
2 SUPPORT AND PASS THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL FIRST.

3 WHEREAS, the national security of the American nation and  
4 people is the first and foremost obligation of the national  
5 government; and

6 WHEREAS, the men and women of our Armed Forces of the United  
7 States now serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps,  
8 Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, National Guard and Reserves have  
9 shown great courage and self-sacrifice and deserve to be equipped  
10 with the best weapons and resources to protect our nation; and

11 WHEREAS, in past years politicians have delayed passing the  
12 defense appropriations bill until late in the budget year so that  
13 the defense appropriations bill was misused as a dumping ground  
14 for pork barrel spending and as a political hostage to pork barrel  
15 spending in other appropriations bills; and

16 WHEREAS, in the wake of the terrorist attacks on America of  
17 September 11, 2001, President Bush asked that Congress pass and  
18 enact the defense appropriations bill before other spending bills;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Congress acted responsibly in the Spring of 2002 and  
21 passed the defense appropriations bill first, protecting our men  
22 and women under arms from becoming political pawns for  
23 politicians' spending games:

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
25 MISSISSIPPI, That we hereby commend Congress for its  
26 precedent-setting decision to make our nation's defense their  
27 first priority in 2002 and request that the Representatives and



28 Senators from our state continue this important tradition by  
29 passing and enacting the defense appropriations legislation before  
30 all other spending bills in 2003 and in the future.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
32 furnished to the members of the Mississippi congressional  
33 delegation.

