

By: Senator(s) White

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 564

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO
2 REJECT THE POSTAL SERVICE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION WHICH WOULD
3 RESULT IN CLOSING THE ONLY MAIL PROCESSING PLANT IN MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, President Bush's Commission on the United States
5 Postal Service, a special panel formed to come up with suggestions
6 on stopping the hemorrhage of dollars at the postal service, has
7 recommended that the law should be changed to make it easier to
8 close unprofitable processing centers and post offices; and

9 WHEREAS, Congress would need to approve 18 of the
10 Commission's 35 recommendations. Under current law, the postal
11 service cannot close a facility simply because it is losing money,
12 and public opinion must be considered. The Commission's proposal
13 would eliminate those provisions, and give a 3-person panel
14 authority over the postal service with tremendous power; and

15 WHEREAS, Congress should not let the postal service close the
16 only mail processing plant in Mississippi, the one named after
17 slain civil rights activist Medgar Evers, which employs 400 to 500
18 persons in the Jackson area; and

19 WHEREAS, post offices, especially the little ones in small
20 towns and rural regions, are critical to communities. They are
21 the thread that binds rural communities together, and they account
22 for less than 1 percent of the postal service's budget; and

23 WHEREAS, if the Medgar Evers Center were to close, the work
24 would be transferred to New Orleans or Memphis to relocate mail
25 processing centers to reflect population changes; and

26 WHEREAS, Congress will debate on the Commission's proposal,
27 and would be well advised and reject some of the most

28 controversial ideas, such as making it easier for the government
29 to close unprofitable post offices; and

30 WHEREAS, any move by Congress to privatize or economize the
31 postal service in Mississippi would doom the Medgar Evers facility
32 and have a disastrous effect on the economy of central
33 Mississippi:

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
35 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
36 the State of Mississippi urges the United States Congress to
37 reject the Commission on the United States Postal Service's
38 recommendation which would result in closing the Jackson mail
39 plant, the only mail processing plant in Mississippi.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be sent to
41 the Mississippi Congressional Delegation in Washington, D.C., and
42 be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.