

By: Senator(s) Horhn, Simmons, Gollott,
Dawkins, Hewes

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 607

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING RADIO
2 STATION WJZD (JZ 94.5) IN GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, THE ONLY
3 AFRICAN-AMERICAN OWNED FM STATION ON THE GULF COAST, ON THE
4 OCCASION OF ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY.

5 WHEREAS, WJZD (JZ94.5) is the only African-American owned FM
6 station on the Gulf Coast in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, it is one of only three stand alone locally-owned FM
9 stations on the Coast; and

10 WHEREAS, WJZD prides itself on ten years of community
11 service; and

12 WHEREAS, over the last ten years WJZD has registered
13 approximately 10,000 new voters. In 1999, when the little town of
14 Princeville, North Carolina, said to be the oldest town in the
15 country chartered by African Americans, was flooded by Hurricane
16 Floyd, WJZD started a drive to collect food, water, clothing and
17 over \$3,000 and sent a tractor trailer full of goods to help.
18 When Ada Mason, mother of two with family ties to the coast, was
19 killed in the 9/11 tragedy at the Pentagon, WJZD raised several
20 thousand dollars to help her children. When Sergeant Vanessa
21 Turner returned to this country from Iraq, injured and homeless,
22 WJZD listeners raised over \$5,000.00 to assist her and her
23 daughter. In the past decade, WJZD has participated in blood
24 drives and health fairs, given gas away to ease the crunch of
25 rising gas prices, collected items to send to our troops in Iraq,
26 helped purchase championship rings and jackets for the Gulfport
27 High School Basketball Team; and

28 WHEREAS, the station has won numerous awards from state and
29 local organizations for its work in the community; and

30 WHEREAS, to commemorate the anniversary WJZD plans an entire
31 weekend of celebrations. The celebration begins April 9th with
32 the nationally-syndicated Tom Joyner Sky Show at the Beau Rivage
33 Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi. "It's A New Day," the
34 coast number one talk show which airs on WJZD weekdays, will have
35 a live broadcast and an anniversary brunch at the Beau Rivage
36 Resort and Casino. On Saturday, the Annual Keepers of the Pledge
37 Commemoration of the Native Guard in Jones Park in Gulfport will
38 be followed by the Ride of the Buffalo Soldiers with Tom Joyner
39 serving as Grand Marshall, and the long awaited anniversary
40 concert with Ron Isley and the Isley Brothers. On Easter Sunday,
41 Jones Park ends the weekend celebration with an Easter Egg Hunt
42 WJZD style; and

43 WHEREAS, it is with great pleasure that we recognize the 10th
44 Anniversary of this groundbreaking radio station, which, through
45 its community and charitable service, has brought honor to the
46 State of Mississippi:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
48 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
49 we do hereby commend and congratulate Radio Station WJZD (JZ
50 94.5) in Gulfport, Mississippi, the only African-American owned FM
51 Station on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, on the occasion of its 10th
52 Anniversary, and extend to the owners and managers of this station
53 the best wishes of the Legislature on their future success.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
55 the owners and managers of Radio Station WJZD and be made
56 available to the Capitol Press Corps.