

By: Senator(s) Williamson,
Walls, Turner, Thomas, Dawkins,
Lee (47th), Jordan, Simmons,
Horhn, Harden

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 517

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE UNITED STATES SENATE
2 FOR PASSING THE RESOLUTION APOLOGIZING TO THE VICTIMS OF LYNCHING
3 AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

4 WHEREAS, as people of decency, integrity and honor should
5 condemn lynching that was performed due to racial and religious
6 prejudice; and

7 WHEREAS, lynching stemmed from racial and religious
8 persecution; and

9 WHEREAS, the great State of Mississippi agrees with the
10 United States Senate anti-lynching resolution; and

11 WHEREAS, at least 4,742 people, predominantly African
12 Americans, were reported lynched in the United States between 1882
13 and 1968; and

14 WHEREAS, the act occurred throughout the United States until
15 the middle of the twentieth century, with documented incidents in
16 all but four states; and

17 WHEREAS, 99% of all perpetrators escaped from punishment by
18 state or local officials; and

19 WHEREAS, nearly 200 anti-lynching bills were introduced in
20 Congress during the first half of the twentieth century, between
21 1890 and 1952, seven presidents petitioned Congress to end
22 lynching, and between 1920 and 1940, the House of Representatives
23 passed three strong anti-lynching measures; and

24 WHEREAS, only by coming to terms with history can the United
25 States effectively champion human rights abroad; and

26 WHEREAS, an apology offered in the spirit of true repentance
27 moves the United States toward reconciliation and may become

28 central to a new understanding, on which improved racial relations
29 can be forged:

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
31 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
32 we do commend and express appreciation to the United States Senate
33 for passing Senate Resolution 39, which apologized to the victims
34 of lynching and their descendants for the failure of the Senate to
35 enact anti-lynching legislation.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded by
37 the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House to Senator
38 Thad Cochran and Senator Trent Lott, be forwarded to other members
39 of the Mississippi congressional delegation and be made available
40 to members of the Capitol Press Corps.