By: Representatives Morgan, Calvert, Harris, Jackson (45th), Keen, Kinkade, Ladner, Mangold, McMillan, Pigott, Smith

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 47

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY AND HONORING ITS CENTURY OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Forestry Commission was founded on March 6, 1926, to provide leadership in the protection, management and conservation of Mississippi's forest resources, and for the past 100 years, the agency has steadfastly protected communities, supported rural economies, and ensured Mississippi's forests remain healthy and productive for future generations; and

WHEREAS, over the past century, the Mississippi Forestry Commission has served the citizens of Mississippi by protecting lives, property and forestlands through wildfire prevention, suppression and emergency response, while promoting sound forest management and stewardship practices; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi is home to approximately 19 million acres of forestland, making forestry a cornerstone of the state's economy, environment and quality of life, and the Mississippi Forestry Commission plays a critical role in sustaining these

working forests, evolving to meet changing needs while continuing to provide essential services that support jobs, landowners and local government; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Forestry Commission is unwavering in its commitment to its core responsibilities, including wildfire response, forest health monitoring, sustainable forest management assistance, landowner outreach, urban and community forestry support, and forestry education programs that benefit all Mississippians; and

WHEREAS, the success of the Mississippi Forestry Commission is the result of the dedication, professionalism and sacrifice of its employees, both past and present, along with strong partnerships with landowners, local government, state and federal agencies, educational institutions and industry partners; and

WHEREAS, the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Forestry Commission is a significant milestone that offers an opportunity to honor its historic legacy, recognize its current mission, and reaffirm the importance of forestry to Mississippi's economy, public safety, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize and commend the vital work of agencies such as the Mississippi Forestry Commission, whose century of faithful service and continued commitment to protecting and managing Mississippi's forests bring honor and pride to the great Magnolia State:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Mississippi Forestry Commission upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary and honor its century of dedicated service to the State of Mississippi and its citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Mississippi Forestry Commission's Board of Commissioners and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.