

By: Representatives Rotenberry, Eaton, Baker (8th), Bondurant, Bounds, Chism, Cummings, Dedeaux, Fleming, Gunn, Montgomery, Moore, Moss, Read, Robinson (84th), Rogers (61st), Staples, Stringer, Sullivan, Upshaw, Warren, Woods, Arinder, Baker (74th), Davis, Franks, Holloway, Howell, Jennings, Markham, Reynolds, Smith (59th), Ward To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 98

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENT
2 AND CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE "25 BY 25" INITIATIVE PROMOTING
3 AGRICULTURAL-BASED RENEWABLE ENERGY.

4 WHEREAS, having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy
5 supply is crucial to our economy, as well as to our national and
6 international food supply; and

7 WHEREAS, current and future risks to United States energy
8 security are mounting, while domestic and global energy demands
9 are escalating; and

10 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi has tremendous renewable
11 energy resources and affordable electric rates; and

12 WHEREAS, the development of renewable energy sources,
13 including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters,
14 ethanol and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct
15 economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities
16 only if electric rates do not increase; and

17 WHEREAS, agricultural communities and their partners will
18 experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional
19 markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income;
20 creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their
21 byproducts; and creating new job opportunities; and

22 WHEREAS, American agriculture is well positioned to play an
23 expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy
24 solutions; and

25 WHEREAS, America's farms and ranches can become the factories
26 that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's
27 energy needs; and

28 WHEREAS, "25 by 25" is an agriculturally led initiative that
29 envisions America's farms and ranches producing 25% of America's
30 energy demand by the year 2025, while continuing to produce
31 abundant, safe and affordable food and fiber; and

32 WHEREAS, agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a
33 positive effect on national security and trade imbalances and will
34 serve as a catalyst for rural development in the State of
35 Mississippi only if electric rates do not increase due to mandated
36 renewables:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
38 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
39 THEREIN, That we, the members of the Mississippi Legislature,
40 support and endorse the vision of "25 by 25," under which
41 agriculture will provide 25% of the total energy consumed in the
42 United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce
43 abundant, safe and affordable food and fiber and enjoying
44 affordable electric rates .

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature urges the
46 President and Congress of the United States to support the "25 by
47 25" initiative promoting the use of agricultural-based renewable
48 energy as a goal, not as a mandate.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
50 furnished to the President of the United States, the President of
51 the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House
52 of Representatives, the members of the Mississippi Congressional
53 Delegation, the Secretary of the United States Department of
54 Energy, the Secretary of the United States Department of
55 Agriculture, and the members of the Capitol Press Corps.