A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF THE
MISSISSIPPI POULTRY ASSOCIATION PROVIDED TO THE AGRICULTURAL
INDUSTRY OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AND CONGRATULATING THE
ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Poultry Association, formed as the
Mississippi Poultry Improvement Association in 1937 to help battle
poultry diseases and promote the development of the industry, will
celebrate the occasion of its 75th anniversary in 2012; and

WHEREAS, as Mississippi's largest agricultural commodity, the
poultry industry today has more than a $6 billion impact on the
state's economy, employing some 28,000 individuals directly, which
in turn indirectly spurs the creation of an additional 27,000
subsidiary jobs; and

WHEREAS, with 20 processing facilities and approximately
2,000 growers, the poultry market in Mississippi is well
represented with industry locations throughout the state which
include growers, feed mills, hatcheries, processing plants,
laboratories and company headquarters; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to this vital market's success and
impact on the global economy, Mississippi ranks fifth in the
nation in poultry production and Mississippi's 3rd Congressional
District leads the nation in poultry and egg production among all
districts; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi's poultry companies process roughly 757
million birds per year, more than 250 times the human population
of the state, and 400 million table eggs, accounting for more than
$2.4 billion being paid to farmers in 2011, and wages and salaries
totaling more than $2.1 billion; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its creation and expansion, the
industry has grown from small, family-owned businesses and farms
into an integrated global industry with approximately 12 percent
of broiler production exported worldwide; and
WHEREAS, the Mississippi Poultry Association was a stalwart advocate and resource which assisted the state in the initiation and passage of the Emerging Crops Fund and loan program, which has made it easier for many more farmers to enter the poultry industry, and has developed a reliably significant and cooperative business rapport with Mississippi State University, the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the Board of Animal Health and the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, because of the Mississippi Poultry Association's call to humanitarian advocacy and philanthropic aid, Mississippi poultry companies donate thousands of pounds of their products annually to fight hunger and to aid and develop their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to acknowledge the importance of the roles played by organizations of the Mississippi Poultry Association's caliber, which stimulate economic growth through their ability to consistently provide a valuable agricultural commodity to the global community and posturing Mississippi poultry industry as a necessary player on the world stage of supply and demand:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the service of the Mississippi Poultry Association to the agricultural industry of the State of Mississippi, congratulate the association on the occasion of its 75th anniversary, and extend most sincere wishes for continued success and productivity in the future years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Mississippi Poultry Association and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.