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POM-447. A resolution adopted by the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission relative to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-448. A resolution adopted by the Southern Governors' Association relative to the Endangered Species Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-449. A resolution adopted by the Arkansas Wildlife Federation relative to water resources management; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-450. A resolution adopted by the board of commissioners of Columbus County, NC, relative to welfare reform; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-451. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to a Constitutional Convention; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-452. A resolution adopted by the council of the city of Atlanta, GA, relative to drug abuse prevention programs; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

POM-453. A concurrent resolution adopted by the legislature of the State of Mississippi; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 547

A concurrent resolution post-ratifying amendment XIII to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting the practice of slavery within the United States except as punishment for a crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and for related purposes.

Whereas, the Thirty-Eighth Congress of the United States, on February 1, 1865, by the required vote of two-thirds of the membership of both houses thereof, did propose to the legislatures of the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which reads as follows:

"AMENDMENT XIII

"Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

"Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.";

Whereas, Amendment XIII officially became part of the United States Constitution

on December 6, 1865, when the General Assembly of the State of Georgia furnished that amendment's pivotal twenty-seventh ratification, there being at the time thirty-six states in the Union; and

Whereas, it is common for state legislatures to continue to act upon amendments to the U.S. Constitution well after those amendments have already received a sufficient number of ratifications in order to become part of that document; and

Whereas, with specific regard to Amendment XIII, subsequent to the Georgia General Assembly's approval, that amendment was then post-ratified by the legislatures of eight other states which were part of the Union during that era, including that of Delaware in February of 1901, some thirty-five years after Amendment XIII had already been adopted, and that of Kentucky in March of 1976, well over a full century after Amendment XIII had been established as part of our nation's highest law; and

Whereas, with respect to Amendment XIII, Mississippi, until now, has been the only state which was part of the Union well before and long after Amendment XIII was proposed and ratified whose legislature has denied approval of that important amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, the people of present-day Mississippi strongly condemn the unconscionable practice of slavery and firmly believe that it is fitting and proper that official action be taken now to finally place upon Amendment XIII the special approval of the State of Mississippi; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Mississippi State Senate, the House of Representatives concurring therein, That Amendment XIII to the Constitution of the United States, quoted above and transmitted by resolution of the Thirty-Eighth Congress be, and the same hereby is, post-ratified by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi; be it further

Resolved, That Chapter CVIII, General Laws of 1865, in which the Mississippi Legislature, on December 4, 1865, refused to ratify Amendment XIII, is hereby specifically rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State of the State of Mississippi transmit properly-attested copies of this concurrent resolution to the Archivist of the United States, pursuant to Pub. L. 98-497; to the Vice-President of the United States, as presiding officer of the U.S. Senate; to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to both U.S. Senators and to all five U.S. Representatives from Mississippi with the request that this concurrent resolution's text be reproduced in its entirety in the Congressional Record.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Kathleen A. McGinty, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality to which position she was appointed during the last recess of the Senate.

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that she be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first