

Chapter No. 2139
14/SS02/R1173
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SENATE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 604

Originated in Senate Liz Welch Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 604

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING CHELSEA KAITLIN RICK OF FULTON, MISSISSIPPI, UPON BEING CROWNED MISS MISSISSIPPI 2013.

WHEREAS, Chelsea Kaitlin Rick, 23, of Fulton, Mississippi, was crowned Miss Mississippi 2013 on Saturday, July 13, 2013, at the Vicksburg Convention Center, capturing the No. 1 spot sought after by a competitive field of young ladies who competed for the coveted title to represent Mississippi in the Miss America Pageant; and

WHEREAS, while at the State Competition, Chelsea won the Talent Preliminary Award, Swimsuit Preliminary Award, Evening Gown Poise Award, Quality of Life Finalist Award, Women in Medicine Award, and over \$10,000.00 in cash scholarships to accompany her crown and title; and

WHEREAS, as Miss Mississippi, Chelsea represented the State of Mississippi at the ninety-third Miss America Pageant during its historic return to Atlantic City, New Jersey, in September 2013, where the American tradition began in 1921, and she was

distinguished among the 53 representatives at the Arrival Ceremony as one of the Top 7 Quality of Life Award Finalists for her community service platform, Full Plates, Healthy States, which works to eradicate childhood hunger with nutritious, healthy foods, and she was also recognized as one of five finalists for the Inaugural Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics Scholarship (STEM) based on her credentials in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics field, and after a rigorous interview process, Chelsea was awarded one of two \$5,000.00 STEM scholarships in front of a National Press Conference including former Miss Americas; and

WHEREAS, the legendary "Show Me Your Shoes Parade" down the historic Atlantic City Boardwalk was reinstated as a part of the homecoming festivities for Miss America, during which Chelsea's state-themed shoe and costume depicted "Mississippi Medical Firsts" and her own future career as a Mississippi Physician as she wore beautifully designed "stethoscope" shoes complete with a crystal encrusted white medical coat and a doctor's bag displaying impressive facts in Mississippi medical history; and

WHEREAS, in competition, Chelsea was recognized as a Lifestyle and Fitness Preliminary Swimsuit Award winner, a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Medal recipient and a Top 15 Finalist during the live Miss America Pageant on September 15, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Clay and Rhonda Leslie Rick of Fulton, Chelsea is a 2008 honors graduate of Itawamba Agricultural

High School where she was Student Body President and Valedictorian, and a 2012 Alumnus of Millsaps College, with a bachelor's degree in biology with honors distinction with a minor in faith and work, and she will return to William Carey University College of osteopathic medicine as a second year medical student; and

WHEREAS, collegiate academic honors at Millsaps College include: completion of an honors thesis entitled, *Epigenetic Markers of the Serotonergic System in a Rodent Chronic Stress Model: examining the extent of methylation 5-HT1A in the prefrontal cortex of stressed and home cage control rats*, cum laude honors graduate, Millsaps Presidential Scholar, President's List, Dean's List, Omicron Delta Kappa Scholarship and Leadership Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma Academic Excellence Honor Society, Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Medicine Honor Society, Sigma Lambda Service and Leadership Honor Society, and numerous others; and

WHEREAS, Chelsea served in numerous service and leadership capacities including President of Student Council for College Advancement through which she created the Millsaps College Conference for the Advancement of Philanthropy, served on the Student Government Association Executive Board, as a Lilly Fellow through the Faith and Work Initiative, and she was the recipient of the Souls Afire Award given to the "most exemplary of honesty, integrity, and high moral standards exemplified through

overwhelming service toward the betterment of the human condition"; and

WHEREAS, Chelsea is distinguished as a Mississippi Rural Physicians' Scholar, and she plans to serve as a physician in a medically underserved rural Mississippi area after completion of her residency training, and as Miss Mississippi, she has promoted the program to young, future physicians during her time in an ambassadorial role with the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians, through which she advocated to fourth- and fifth-grade Mississippi students about "Tobacco Wars: Be Kind, Be Courageous, Be You, Be Smoke-Free"; and

WHEREAS, Chelsea is the creator of her platform initiative, Full Plates, Healthy States, through which her first priority is to provide food to the hungry and, secondly, address the issue of nutrition and quality of the food provided to them, and as an advocate of leading a healthy and active lifestyle, she has worked to resolve the underlying correlation which exists between food insecurity and obesity particularly in the State of Mississippi, and Full Plates, Healthy States promotes filling up the plates of hungry children, but doing so with healthy, nutritious produce, and she has ten years of experience in organizing food drives, Thanksgiving turkey deliveries, packing and distributing boxes at both rural and inner-city food pantries, and raising funds for No Kid Hungry; and

WHEREAS, Chelsea is a founding member of a Backpack for Kids program serving critical nutritional support to children in a highly impoverished area of the Mississippi's capital city, she has served as a Nutritional Ambassador at Summer Feeding Program sites, and she has worked to spread nutritional awareness in the Mississippi public school system and through fitness and healthy living events across the state; and

WHEREAS, Chelsea is an Ambassador for Extra Table which provides healthy food to food banks and soup kitchens throughout the State of Mississippi, and she has served as the face and voice of Hunter's Harvest, the Mississippi Wildlife Federation's program which capitalizes upon Mississippi's heritage of outdoor sportsmanship to provide venison to Mississippi Food Network recognized food banks, she has also been featured on Mississippi Public Broadcasting and Mississippi Public Radio sharing her expertise on the impact of food desserts on the cycle of hunger and poverty, she plans to release a music album which will go toward her endowment for North Mississippi Food Pantries through the CREATE Foundation, and her worthwhile initiatives have raised over 10,000 pounds of food for the undernourished, and yet the work closest to her heart is giving a heartfelt smile to the person receiving a nutritious meal or box of healthy food and telling them there is no shame in being in need; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work with hunger, Chelsea spent her year of service as Miss Mississippi serving as Mississippi's

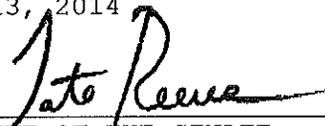
WHEREAS, in addition to her work with hunger, Chelsea spent her year of service as Miss Mississippi serving as Mississippi's Goodwill Ambassador for the Children's Miracle Network, volunteering, visiting and raising money for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals used by Mississippi children including LeBonheur Children's Hospital and, most importantly, Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this young Mississippi citizen who has brought honor and pride to her family, community, and the entire State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Chelsea Kaitlin Rick upon being crowned Miss Mississippi 2013 and extend sincerest wishes for continued success in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Chelsea Kaitlin Rick and made available to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
March 13, 2014



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 18, 2014



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES