A RESOLUTION TO REAFFIRM FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL
PROVISIONS FOR THE RETURN OF FUGITIVES FROM
JUSTICE TO THE STATES HAVING JURISDICTION OF
CRIME COMMITTED.

The United States Constitution provides that full
faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts,
records, judicial proceedings of every other state, and it
further provides for the trial of all crimes except cases of
impeachment by a jury and that such trial shall be held in the
State where the specific crime has been committed, and specifi-
cally that a person charged in any state with treason, felony or
other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another
state shall on demand of the executive authority of the State from
which he fled, be delivered up, and be removed to the State having
jurisdiction of the crime.

These Constitutional provisions which have been in
effect since 1789 are now being violated in numerous instances,
and such disregard of Constitutional provisions forms a definite
threat to the successful punishment of crime, and to the power
of the individual state to control crime within its own realm by
depriving the offended state of its Constitutional function of
prosecution and punishment, and tends to create a haven for
criminals in states which show disrespect for the United States
Constitution in the matter of delivery of fugitives from justice.

The Southern Governors' Conference therefore believes;

1. That there exists an urgent need for corrective
action to forestall this dangerous threat to the
judicial rights of the individual states.

2. That every state in the nation should respect and
carry out the provisions of the United States
Constitution relating to the delivery of fugitives
from justice.

3. That the Council of State Governments be requested
to make a thorough study of this problem with a
view to the creation of means and methods for ending
such disregard of Constitutional authority.

4. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the
Governor and Attorney General of each State in the
United States, and the Administrator of the Council
of State Governments.