

By: Senator(s) Hamilton, Hall

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 105

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING J. KELLEY WILLIAMS UPON HIS INDUCTION
2 INTO THE MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS HALL OF FAME.

3 WHEREAS, J. Kelley Williams, Chairman and Chief Executive
4 Officer of ChemFirst, Inc., in Jackson, Mississippi, was recently
5 selected for induction into the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, J. Kelley Williams was chosen not only because of
8 his accomplishments in the business world, but also because of his
9 contributions to his community and state; and

10 WHEREAS, he joins other laureates who have been inducted into
11 the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame since its founding in 1989
12 by Junior Achievement of Mississippi and its co-sponsor, The
13 Clarion-Ledger; and

14 WHEREAS, a 17-person selection committee, composed of
15 business leaders and educators from across the state, chose
16 Williams from over 100 nominations submitted statewide; and

17 WHEREAS, J. Kelley Williams, as head of ChemFirst, Inc.,
18 oversees the production of chemicals for industry and agriculture;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, a native of Greenwood, Mississippi, Williams
21 graduated from Georgia Tech and received a master of business
22 administration from Harvard University; and

23 WHEREAS, J. Kelley Williams joined the First Mississippi
24 Corp., as the company was known then, in 1967, and became
25 president and chief executive officer in 1972; and

26 WHEREAS, three years later the company became the first

27 Mississippi-chartered corporation to be listed on the New York
28 Stock Exchange; and

29 WHEREAS, Williams led the company through a major
30 restructuring focusing on chemicals and related business; and

31 WHEREAS, total return by the company to shareholders for five
32 years ending December 31, 1997, was 631 percent, compared with the
33 Standard and Poor's 500 return of 151 percent; and

34 WHEREAS, J. Kelley Williams serves on the Mississippi
35 Economic Council, Mississippi Foundation of Independent Colleges,
36 and a Georgia Tech advisory board, and is Chairman of the
37 Institute for Technology Development in Mississippi; and

38 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend and
39 recognize the exemplary service of its citizens:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
41 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend J. Kelley Williams upon his
42 induction into the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
44 furnished to J. Kelley Williams and made available to the Capitol
45 Press Corps.