

By: Johnson (38th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 608  
(As Adopted by House and Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF THE LATE MR.  
2 WILLIE LEE TOBIAS, SR., AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE  
3 LEGISLATURE.

4 WHEREAS, the late Mr. Willie Lee Tobias, Sr., son of Mr.  
5 Aaron and Bessie Tobias, departed this life on Tuesday, March 7,  
6 2000, at the age of 81 years, four months and 23 days; he was born  
7 on October 13, 1918, in Liberty, Mississippi; and

8 WHEREAS, as a youth, he attended the Burglund Elementary  
9 School in McComb and the Pike County AHS of Magnolia, Mississippi;  
10 later, he attended Rust College in Holly Springs; but this  
11 matriculation was interrupted, as he was drafted into military  
12 service during World War II; he served in the U.S. Army and was  
13 stationed primarily in Burma; he attained the rank of Staff  
14 Sergeant and was bestowed both the Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal  
15 and the Good Conduct Medal; and

16 WHEREAS, after the war, Mr. Tobias completed post-secondary  
17 and graduate studies at New York University where he received the  
18 Bachelor of Science and the Master of Arts degrees, along with the  
19 Certificate of Advanced Study in school administration and  
20 supervision; he completed further studies at Rust College, the  
21 University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the University of Alabama  
22 and the University of Southern Mississippi; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Tobias was a former teacher at Leflore County  
24 High School in Itta Bena and Pike County schools, and served as  
25 Principal at Coahoma Junior College's Agricultural High School in  
26 Clarksdale, Mississippi; and

27           WHEREAS, Mr. Tobias received several official appointments  
28 and honorary proclamations from two of Mississippi's Governors --  
29 including the State Post-Secondary Education Planning Board and  
30 the Advisory Board for Mississippi Educational Television; he also  
31 served as the State's Project Reviewer for the U.S. Department of  
32 Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C.; and

33           WHEREAS, Mr. Tobias was preceded in death by his parents, one  
34 sister, and his youngest son; he is survived by his wife of 58  
35 years, Mrs. Lillian B. Tobias, his eldest son and daughter-in-law,  
36 Dr. & Mrs. W.L. Tobias, Jr., four granddaughters, one grandson,  
37 one grandson-in-law, one sister, several cousins, other relatives,  
38 friends and hundreds of former students and colleagues; and

39           WHEREAS, during his lifetime, he held numerous other  
40 governmental and lay positions of leadership and service at the  
41 local, state and federal levels; throughout, however, Mr. Tobias  
42 sought to increase the capacity of his community, collectively and  
43 individually, to chart and control its destiny by improving  
44 intellectual, social and economic vitality:

45           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
46 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
47 we do hereby commend the life of Mr. Willie Lee Tobias, Sr., as  
48 one rich with intellectual, social and economic vitality, and  
49 express the sympathy of the Legislature on his passing.

50           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be  
51 presented to the Tobias family, and be made available to the  
52 Capitol Press Corps.