

By: Senator(s) Gordon, Little, Huggins,
White (5th), Nunnelee

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF WILLIE ROSS WALKER OF
2 BLUE SPRINGS AND MARIETTA, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE
3 SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

4 WHEREAS, Willie Ross Walker departed this life on Tuesday,
5 January 15, 2002; and

6 WHEREAS, he was born March 7, 1931, unto Sanders and Lula
7 Walker, was a member of the Red Hill M.B. Church in Blue Springs,
8 Mississippi, and was a retired employee of Joyner-Fields
9 Manufacturing in Sherman, Mississippi; and

10 WHEREAS, Willie was known to his friends as the "Bar-B-Que"
11 Man, and was a frequent visitor to the New Capitol during the
12 administration of Governor William Waller, and a friend to members
13 of the Legislature; and

14 WHEREAS, Willie was employed for 25 years at Marietta
15 Manufacturing Company, and according to Mr. A.J. Pitts, owner of
16 the company, Willie was an outstanding employee, an exceptional
17 man who was very well-liked by everyone who knew him: "He was a
18 great man, an honest man, and was like a member of my family
19 during the 25 years we worked together"; and

20 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife, Hattie D. Walker of Blue
21 Springs; a daughter, Wanda Walker of Tupelo; a son, David Ross
22 Walker and his wife, Brigitta; a special son, Jessie M. Bowen of
23 Mt. Vernon, Illinois; two step-daughters, Phyllis Collins and her
24 husband, Carl, and Sonya Birmingham of Tulsa, Oklahoma; three
25 stepsons, Patrick Bell of Tupelo, Timothy Bell and his wife, Laura
26 of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Darryl Bell of Chicago; two sisters, Sally
27 Mae Ellis and her husband, Eddie of Memphis, and Linda Bell and



28 her husband, George of Verona; five brothers, Sam Walker, John
29 Walker and Henry Walker, all of Pontotoc, J.C. Walker and his
30 wife, Josephine, and Lowell Walker, all of Tupelo; special
31 friends, Lamar Standifer, A.J. Pitts, Bora McWhorter and Murdice
32 McWhorter; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and
33 seven step-grandchildren; and

34 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of our
35 friend who was a respected citizen of his community and of the
36 State of Mississippi:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
38 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the life of Willie Ross
39 Walker of Blue Springs and Marietta, Mississippi, and express the
40 sympathy of the Legislature on his passing.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
42 the wife and surviving family of Mr. Walker, and be made available
43 to the Capitol Press Corps.

