

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DR. HICKMAN M.  
2 JOHNSON, PASTOR OF FARISH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, ON THE OCCASION  
3 OF HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT OF MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST SEMINARY.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Hickman M. Johnson, Pastor of Farish Street  
5 Baptist Church, has announced his retirement as President of  
6 Mississippi Baptist Seminary in Jackson, where he has served for  
7 30 years as instructor, dean, board member, chairman of the board  
8 and currently as President; and

9 WHEREAS, born in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Johnson is a  
10 graduate of Tennessee State University (B.S.); Morehouse School of  
11 Religion, Interdenominational Theological Center (M.Div.);  
12 Mississippi College (M.A.); and Emory University (D.Min.); and

13 WHEREAS, from 1967-1968, Dr. Johnson served as Chaplain at  
14 Tougaloo College and in August 1968, accepted the pastorate of the  
15 historic Farish Street Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi. From  
16 1970-1975, while still serving the pastorate of Farish Street  
17 Baptist Church, Dr. Johnson directed the Jackson Opportunities  
18 Industrialization Center (OIC), a nonprofit community-based jobs  
19 training program. In October 1976, he was appointed Regional  
20 Director of the Atlanta Region of OICs of America with  
21 responsibility for 28 local affiliates in an eight-state region.  
22 In June 1977, Dr. Johnson resigned as Regional Director of OIC to  
23 give more time to a demanding pastorate; and

24 WHEREAS, in November 1981, Dr. Johnson was appointed Dean of  
25 Academic Affairs, Mississippi Baptist Seminary, and on January 1,  
26 1989, became the sixth President of Mississippi Baptist Seminary,  
27 Jackson, Mississippi. From February 1991 to May 1991, Dr. Johnson



28 served as Interim Executive Director, Jackson Housing Authority.  
29 In January 1994, he was reappointed Interim Executive Director and  
30 in June 1994, was appointed Executive Director, Jackson Housing  
31 Authority, and served until October 2000. Under his leadership,  
32 the Jackson Housing Authority received several awards and  
33 recognitions, including the Secretary's Citation, presented by HUD  
34 Secretary Andrew Cuomo and HUD's Best Practice Award for its  
35 affordable homeownership program. In May 2001, Dr. Johnson was  
36 appointed Interim Executive Director, Tupelo Housing Authority,  
37 and in December 2001, accepted the appointment as Executive  
38 Director; and

39 WHEREAS, he is extremely active in the church and community,  
40 having served as Chairman, Mississippi Religious Leadership  
41 Conference (MRLC); Chairman, MRLC Disaster Task Force;  
42 Co-Chairman, Change in the Form of Government Committee appointed  
43 by the Mayor to recommend changes in Jackson's commission form of  
44 government; Chairman, Seminole District Committee, Boy Scouts of  
45 America; Member, Executive Board, Andrew Jackson Council, Boy  
46 Scouts of America; Member, Southern Ecumenical Council on Maternal  
47 and Infant Health of the Southern Governors' Association; Member,  
48 Seminole District Committee, Boy Scouts of America; Moderator,  
49 Jackson District Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. (1988-1994);  
50 Corresponding Secretary, General Baptist State Convention of  
51 Mississippi (1988-1994); Member, Theological Commission, National  
52 Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. (1971-1990); Commissioner, City of  
53 Jackson Housing Authority (1969-1991); Chairman, City of Jackson  
54 Housing Authority Board of Commissioners (1990-1991); Supervisor  
55 General Division and Faculty Member, National Baptist Congress of  
56 Christian Education; Board of Directors, Mississippi Religious  
57 Leadership Conference; Board of Directors, General Baptist State  
58 Convention of Mississippi; Member, National Association of Housing  
59 and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO); Member, Public Housing  
60 Authorities Directors' Association (PHADA); Member, Southeastern



61 Regional, Housing and Redevelopment Officials; Member, Phi Delta  
62 Kappa Professional Fraternity; Member, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity,  
63 Incorporated; and Member, Beta Gamma Boule, Sigma Pi Phi  
64 Fraternity; and

65 WHEREAS, in recognition of his service to the church and  
66 community, he was awarded honorary degrees from Natchez College  
67 (D.D.) and Mississippi Baptist Seminary (D.D). Dr. Johnson  
68 received the Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference's  
69 Distinguished Religious Leaders Award and the 1990 Boy Scouts of  
70 America District Award of Merit. Dr. Johnson is a member of the  
71 International Society of Theta Phi and is listed in *Personalities*  
72 *of the South*, 1973 edition, and *Biographical Directory of Negro*  
73 *Ministers*, third edition, and a contributor, *Townsend Commentary*  
74 1988-1989; and

75 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the  
76 spiritual, charitable and public service of this Mississippian who  
77 has brought honor to his church, his community and to the State of  
78 Mississippi:

79 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
80 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr.  
81 Hickman M. Johnson, Pastor of Farish Street Baptist Church, on the  
82 occasion of his retirement as President of Mississippi Baptist  
83 Seminary in Jackson, after 30 years of leadership and service to  
84 that institution, and extend to him and his family the best wishes  
85 of the Senate on continued success.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
87 Dr. Johnson at ceremonies on March 1, 2003, and be made available  
88 to the Capitol Press Corps.

