

By: Senator(s) Chaney, Dawkins, Tollison,  
Frazier, Jackson, Ross, Smith

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 73

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LEGACY OF SERVICE OF THE RIGHT  
2 REVEREND A.C. "CHIP" MARBLE, JR., BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE  
3 OF MISSISSIPPI, AND CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
4 RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, The Right Reverend Alfred Clark "Chip" Marble, Jr.,  
6 retired as the Eighth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of  
7 Mississippi on February 28, 2003; and

8 WHEREAS, Bishop Marble served as Bishop Coadjutor from June  
9 15, 1991, and has served as Diocesan Bishop since October 1, 1993,  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Bishop Marble was born in Oneonta, New York, on  
12 April 4, 1936; he and his family moved to Vicksburg, Mississippi,  
13 when he was three years of age; he is the son of Alfred Clark  
14 Marble, Sr., and Charlotte Elizabeth Humbarger. His father was a  
15 well-known musician in Vicksburg; and

16 WHEREAS, he was nurtured in the Christian faith at St.  
17 Alban's Episcopal Church in Bovina, Mississippi, where he had his  
18 first job as janitor of the church; he graduated from the  
19 Vicksburg Public Schools, attended the University of Mississippi,  
20 from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in  
21 Psychology in 1958, where he was a member of the "Ole Miss Hall of  
22 Fame"; after graduating from Ole Miss, he was commissioned as an  
23 officer in the United States Navy, where he served four years, two  
24 years aboard the Destroyer U.S. Hawkins (DDR-873); he entered the  
25 School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee,  
26 Tennessee, to begin seminary education and received his Bachelor  
27 of Divinity Degree in 1967; he studied at the Theological College  
28 of Edinburgh, Scotland; and



29           WHEREAS, Bishop Marble was ordained as a Deacon in 1967 at  
30 his home church of St. Alban's in Bovina, and in 1968 he was  
31 ordained Priest at St. James Church in Jackson; Bishop Marble  
32 served congregations in Jackson, Olive Branch, Southaven, Oxford  
33 and Meridian. In Oxford he served as University Chaplain at Ole  
34 Miss and later as Rector of St. Peters Church; and

35           WHEREAS, while in Oxford, he met and married Helen Nadine  
36 (Diene) Harper. They are the parents of two grown sons, Matt and  
37 Jonathan; and

38           WHEREAS, he served as Assistant to the Bishop in the Diocese  
39 of East Carolina for eight years. He was elected Bishop Coadjutor  
40 of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi on February 23, 1991, by a  
41 vote of lay and ordained leaders of the Diocese. He returned home  
42 to Mississippi to assume the new position; and

43           WHEREAS, hallmarks of his tenure as Bishop have included:  
44 support for children and families in crisis; support of racial  
45 reconciliation and the eradication of racism; outreach to the  
46 rapidly-growing Hispanic population in Mississippi; the  
47 recognition and full implementation of the distinctive Order of  
48 the Diaconate for service to community; support of youth ministry  
49 and the Diocesan camping program; the formation of Earth Lab at  
50 Gray Center, a center for environmental education in Mississippi;  
51 and worked tirelessly with Methodist and Roman Catholic Bishops to  
52 develop an ecumenical approach to solving problems and addressing  
53 issues; and

54           WHEREAS, Bishop Marble has retired to Meridian, where he and  
55 his wife have a home, and we are grateful for Bishop Marble's  
56 legacy of service to the Diocese of Mississippi:

57           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
58 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the legacy of service of  
59 Right Reverend Alfred Clark "Chip" Marble, Jr., longtime Bishop of  
60 the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, and congratulate him and his



61 wife, Diene, and extend to them the best wishes of the Legislature  
62 as he returns to private life.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
64 Bishop Marble and his family, be forwarded to the Episcopal  
65 Diocese of Mississippi and be made available to the Capitol Press  
66 Corps.

