

By: Senator(s) Little, Walden

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 98

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF
2 LONGTIME CORINTH CITY CLERK JAMES R. (JIM) BILLINGSLEY UPON THE
3 OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, James R. (Jim) Billingsley has been City Clerk of
5 Corinth, Mississippi, since 1983, and when anyone had a question
6 about municipal government in Corinth or in any Mississippi
7 municipality, Jim Billingsley was the man to ask; and

8 WHEREAS, prior to beginning his career at Corinth City Hall
9 in 1983, Billingsley worked with several other government agencies
10 where he gained important experience in local, state and federal
11 programs; and

12 WHEREAS, a native of Corinth, Mississippi, Jim Billingsley
13 attended Corinth High School in 1957; enlisted in the Army, became
14 an officer for the 6th Quartermaster ECP281 and served two years
15 in Germany, receiving the Army Commendation Medal. While in
16 Germany he met his wife, the former Christine Hofmann; they were
17 married in 1963 and have two children, Mike and Melinda; and

18 WHEREAS, when he returned to Corinth, Jim joined the Corinth
19 National Guard and served as Commander of the local unit, which
20 was recognized as the most outstanding training unit in the state
21 for several years. He reached the rank of Major in the Army
22 Reserve before leaving military service and for his long dedicated
23 military service Jim was recently named Veteran of the Month by
24 Brigade Headquarters; and

25 WHEREAS, Jim received a BA Degree from Mississippi State
26 University in 1962, and after a stint in the Advertising
27 Department at the *Daily Corinthian* newspaper, he went to work for



28 the Corinth Urban Renewal Agency. He later became the first
29 Executive Director of the Tennessee Valley Housing Authority. He
30 went into private business for about three years, building and
31 managing apartments until 1983 when he was hired as City Clerk;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, Billingsley served under four mayors, including the
34 late John D. Mercier and E.S. Bishop. He also worked under Jack
35 Holt and current Mayor Jerry Latch, who said, "In the eight years
36 I worked with him, I learned that he was one of the most
37 knowledgeable men in municipal government in the State of
38 Mississippi"; and

39 WHEREAS, Billingsley served on the Mississippi Municipal
40 Association, Board of Directors for eight years and served eight
41 years as Parliamentarian for the Mississippi Municipal Clerks
42 Association; other Mississippi municipal governments called him
43 quite frequently for advice on municipal affairs; and

44 WHEREAS, Jim Billingsley said that every day was a new
45 challenge, but his best memory was how the City of Corinth
46 responded to the 1994 ice storm, with all city employees working
47 together; and

48 WHEREAS, Jim Billingsley served with distinction and the City
49 of Corinth and the State of Mississippi will miss his experience
50 and leadership, and wish to express sincere appreciation to him
51 for his record of dedicated public service:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
53 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the legacy of public
54 service of longtime Corinth City Clerk James R. (Jim) Billingsley
55 upon the occasion of his retirement after 20 years of service, for
56 all that he has meant to the City of Corinth and his contributions
57 to Mississippi municipal government, and extend to him the best
58 wishes of the Senate.



59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
60 Jim Billingsley and his family and be made available to the Tupelo
61 Daily Journal and the Capitol Press Corps.

