

By: Senator(s) Little, Blackmon, Browning, Bryan, Burton, Carlton, Carmichael, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cuevas, Dawkins, Dearing, Dickerson, Farris, Frazier, Furniss, Gollott, Gordon, Hamilton, Harden, Harvey, Hewes, Horhn, Huggins, Hyde-Smith, Jackson, Johnson (19th), Johnson (38th), Jordan, King, Kirby, Lee, Mettetal, Michel, Minor, Moffatt, Nunnelee, Posey, Robertson, Ross, Scoper, Simmons, Smith, Stogner, Thames, Tollison, Turner, Walden, Walls, White, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 108

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF  
2 DISTRICT 17 STATE SENATOR WILLIAM W. (BILL) CANON, THE "DEAN OF  
3 THE SENATE."

4 WHEREAS, State Senator William Ward (Bill) Canon, a  
5 Republican from Columbus, Mississippi, has indicated that he will  
6 retire at the expiration of his present term; and

7 WHEREAS, a Veterinarian, Bill Canon is completing his 28th  
8 year in the Legislature representing Lowndes County and is the  
9 "Dean of the Senate," having served in the House of  
10 Representatives from 1976-1979 and serving in the Senate from 1979  
11 to the present; and

12 WHEREAS, in Bill Canon, the residents of District 17 are  
13 losing an honest, dependable State Senator, and the residents of  
14 Mississippi are losing 28 years of legislative leadership,  
15 experience and unquestioned integrity; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Canon was appointed to the Joint Legislative  
17 Audit Committee (PEER Committee) in December 1990, has served as  
18 Chairman, Vice Chairman or Secretary of this legislative  
19 investigative group for 10 of the 12 years he has served, is the  
20 only legislator elected as Chairman of the PEER Committee four  
21 times in the 30-year history of the committee, and as Chairman,  
22 Senator Canon guided the PEER Committee through deliberations on  
23 wide-ranging subjects. Through it all, Senator Canon has never  
24 missed an opportunity to enliven the most serious debate with his  
25 boundless wit and charm.



26           WHEREAS, Senator Canon is former Chairman of the Senate  
27 Public Utilities Committee, the Senate Highways and Transportation  
28 Committee and the Senate County Affairs Committee, and in his many  
29 years in the Senate has served with distinction on practically  
30 every Senate Committee, this committee experience representing  
31 substantial legislative influence; and

32           WHEREAS, he was particularly knowledgeable of health  
33 licensure issues, utilizing his professional background, and was  
34 responsible for handling numerous licensure bills in the Senate  
35 Public Health Committee, especially legislation dealing with the  
36 State Board of Cosmetology due to the fact that the board members  
37 held Senator Canon in such high esteem; and

38           WHEREAS, he was a champion of open government, consistently  
39 expressing the belief that fees on the public for governmental  
40 services were no different than taxes and should be considered as  
41 such; and

42           WHEREAS, Senator Canon was born on December 31, 1930, in  
43 Vaiden, Mississippi, attended Vaiden High School, Mississippi  
44 State University and Auburn University, is a successful practicing  
45 veterinarian; he is a Lieutenant Colonel, Retd., in the United  
46 States Air Force Reserve; he is a backbone of church, civic and  
47 economic development efforts across his district; is a Methodist,  
48 Mason, Shriner, Odd Fellow, ATO, is active in the American  
49 Veterinary Medical Association, the Mississippi State University  
50 Alumni Assn, Kiwanis, the Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce,  
51 the Air Force Association; and he is dedicated to his daughter,  
52 Majorie, who lives in Columbus; and

53           WHEREAS, Senator Canon has been praised in the Senate for his  
54 method of explaining bills on the floor, which consisted of  
55 precise, clear and complete presentations of every detail, leaving  
56 no question unanswered; and

57           WHEREAS, Senator Canon served with distinction and the  
58 members of the Senate will miss his humor, experience,



59 constructive leadership and friendship, and wish to express  
60 sincere appreciation to Senator Canon for his record of dedicated  
61 public service:

62         NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
63 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend our friend and colleague  
64 Senator William Ward (Bill) Canon of Columbus, Mississippi, the  
65 "Dean of the Senate," for all that he has meant to the Mississippi  
66 Senate and his contributions to the people of the State of  
67 Mississippi.

68         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
69 Senator Canon and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

