

By: Senator(s) Little, Dearing,
Blackmon, Browning, Bryan, Burton,
Carlton, Carmichael, Chamberlin, Chaney,
Cuevas, Dawkins, 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.

