

By: Senator(s) Little, Blackmon, Browning, Bryan, Burton, Canon, Carlton, Carmichael, Chamberlin, Chaney, Cuevas, Dawkins, Dearing, Dickerson, Farris, Frazier, 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. 109

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF  
2 DISTRICT 11 STATE SENATOR VERNON DELMA FURNISS.

3 WHEREAS, Vernon Delma Furniss, a Democrat from Rena Lara,  
4 Mississippi, is completing 11 years of outstanding, dedicated  
5 service as State Senator from District 11 (Coahoma, Quitman and  
6 Tunica Counties) and 20 total years of service in the Legislature;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, in Delma Furniss, the residents of District 11 are  
9 losing an honest, dependable State Senator, and the residents of  
10 Mississippi are losing 20 years of legislative experience and  
11 unquestioned integrity; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Furniss served in the House of  
13 Representatives from 1984-1993, and has served in the Senate from  
14 1993 to the present, and has taken a leading role in virtually  
15 every meaningful economic development, agriculture, health care  
16 and progressive education program in his district during his  
17 tenure; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Furniss is presently Chairman of the Senate  
19 Veterans and Military Affairs Committee, where he has been a  
20 champion of veterans' rights, taking an extremely active role in  
21 the development of the States Veterans' Homes, the Mississippi  
22 Vietnam Monument Commission and the Youth Challenge Program  
23 operated at Camp Shelby; and

24 WHEREAS, Senator Furniss has served with distinction on many  
25 House and Senate Committees in his tenure, including the  
26 Corrections Committee where he was Vice Chairman, and the Finance,



27 Fees, Salaries and Administration, Economic Development, Tourism  
28 and Parks, Highways and Transportation and the Judiciary  
29 Committees; and

30 WHEREAS, he took a particular interest in assisting the  
31 Mississippi Firefighters Memorial Burn Center at Delta Regional  
32 Hospital by sponsoring legislation creating a special trust fund  
33 and offered amendments to allow nursing home residents to continue  
34 to receive Medicaid reimbursement for home-leave days; and

35 WHEREAS, Delma is a retired conductor for the Illinois  
36 Central Railroad, is a member of the Delta State University and  
37 the University of Mississippi Alumni Associations, the  
38 Clarksdale-Coahoma Chamber of Commerce, Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Gamma  
39 Mu, Phi Alpha Theta, Lambda Iota Tau Fraternities; he is an active  
40 member of the Baptist Church and is dedicated to his wife, Edith  
41 Lynn Roark, and children, Jerry, Jan, Jeffrey and Julia; and

42 WHEREAS, Senator Furniss served with distinction and we will  
43 miss his friendship:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
45 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the legacy of public  
46 service of District 11 State Senator Vernon Delma Furniss of Rena  
47 Lara, Mississippi, and extend to him and his family the sincere  
48 appreciation of the Senate for his many outstanding  
49 accomplishments and record of dedicated public service.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
51 Senator Furniss and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

