

By: Representative Buck

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 30

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE WORKS AND CONTRIBUTION OF DR.
2 WILLIAM A. MCMILLAN, SR., TO THE CITY OF HOLLY SPRINGS,
3 MISSISSIPPI, AND MARSHALL COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, William Asbury McMillan, Sr., was born the fifth
5 child to James and Lydia McMillan in Winnabow, North Carolina,
6 where he received his formal education, graduating as
7 valedictorian of his class at Brunswick County Training School;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, he earned his bachelor's degree at Johnson C. Smith
10 University in Charlotte, North Carolina, with honors, and earned
11 M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Michigan, undergoing
12 additional studies at Harvard, the College of Medical Evangelists
13 and the University of Pennsylvania; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. McMillan worked as a public school teacher in
15 Pennsylvania and North Carolina and as an instructor and guidance
16 counselor at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, having served as Academic Dean of Bethune Cookman
18 College in Daytona Beach, Florida, for nine years, Dr. McMillan
19 assumed the presidency of Rust College in Holly Springs,
20 Mississippi, in 1967; and

21 WHEREAS, during his 26-year tenure as president, before his
22 retirement in 1993, Dr. McMillan fostered and witnessed increases
23 in enrollment, faculty credentials, endowments, alumni
24 contributions, the annual budget and a shift from an unaccredited
25 to a fully accredited college; and

26 WHEREAS, since his retirement in 1993, Dr. McMillan has
27 continued to serve in various leadership and administrative

28 capacities throughout the state, the nation and the world,
29 including: having served as a visiting consultant at Africa
30 University in Mutera, Zimbabwe, South Africa; consultant at
31 Bethune Cookman College; having conducted workshops on trustee
32 development for boards of trustees in more than fifteen United
33 Negro College Fund (UNCF) member colleges; and chairperson for the
34 Omega Psi Phi/UNCF Campaign Committee; and

35 WHEREAS, in addition to meeting his professional obligations,
36 Dr. McMillan continues to be active in many organizations
37 inspiring leadership in youth and adults alike, including: Omega
38 Psi Phi Fraternity, Concerned Citizens Coalition of Marshall
39 County, Gentlemen of Quality Club, West Woodward Neighborhood
40 Watch, Marshall County Youth Leadership, Yocona Area Boy Scouts
41 Board of Directors, Tourism and Recreation Bureau of Holly
42 Springs, Alliance Health Care Systems Board of Trustees and
43 Community Development Corporation; and

44 WHEREAS, for his commendable efforts and community
45 contributions, Dr. McMillan has received more than 300 awards,
46 including the Silver Beaver Award for his leadership in scouting
47 and the CIC Exemplar Award; and

48 WHEREAS, for his outstanding achievements in educational
49 leadership, he has received several honorary degrees, including
50 those bestowed upon him by Johnson C. Smith University, Cornell
51 University, Bethune Cookman College and Mary Holmes College, in
52 addition to being named the first African American to serve as
53 President of the Mississippi Association of Colleges; and

54 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
55 and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by such
56 outstanding individuals as Dr. McMillan, whose charitable, civic,
57 social and professional volunteerism has established a benchmark
58 of distinction for service:

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
60 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby

61 commend the works and contributions of Dr. William A. McMillan,
62 Sr., provided to the City of Holly Springs, Marshall County and
63 the entire State of Mississippi.

64 BE FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
65 furnished to Dr. McMillan and to the members of the Capitol Press
66 Corps.