

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Gollott, Lee (47th), Hewes, Jackson (32nd), Simmons, Robertson, Brown, King, Doxey, Walls, Ross, Walley, Turner, Jordan, Jackson (11th), Williamson, Jackson (15th), Lee (35th), Burton, Frazier, Gordon, Harden, Horhn, Hyde-Smith, Little, Moffatt, Morgan, Posey, Thames, Tollison To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 510

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF WELL-KNOWN
2 GULFPORT ATTORNEY, ACTOR AND WORLD WAR II VETERAN BOYCE HOLLEMAN,
3 AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

4 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of Jesse
5 Boyce Holleman, who died on November 21, 2003, at age 79; and

6 WHEREAS, Honorable Boyce Holleman, an attorney, actor, World
7 War II veteran and civic treasure, was born and raised in Wiggins,
8 Mississippi, began the practice of law there in May 1950 and comes
9 from an old pioneer lumbering family in South Mississippi. He and
10 his family moved to Gulfport in 1967, where he resided at the time
11 of his death; and

12 WHEREAS, he served in World War II as a Naval aviator, was
13 shot down while making a bomb run at the invasion of Saipan and
14 spent fourteen months recovering from severe burns sustained. He
15 retired from the Navy with the rank of Lieutenant Commander and
16 was awarded the Purple Heart; and

17 WHEREAS, he attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
18 at Perkinston and the University of Mississippi, graduating from
19 Law School in 1950. He was a lifelong fan of both institutions.
20 He was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1947
21 and served until 1953 when he resigned in the second term to
22 become District Attorney for the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He was
23 reelected five times to the position, retiring in 1972 after
24 nineteen years, to return to the private practice of law. He was
25 joined in his private practice by his sons, Mike, Tim and Dean.
26 He served as attorney for the Board of Supervisors of Harrison
27 County for eighteen years and the Harrison County School District

28 for fifteen years. He was elected President of the Mississippi
29 State Bar Association, serving from 1969 through 1970. In 1995 he
30 was awarded the Outstanding Achievement in Law Award by the
31 Mississippi State Bar Association. He was recently one of five
32 lawyers in the State of Mississippi selected by the Bar
33 Association to have an autobiographical video made of his legal
34 career, which is entitled "Trailblazers of the Mississippi Legal
35 Frontier"; and

36 WHEREAS, he has lectured widely on the legal circuit, and in
37 1975 began a theatrical career, which led him to perform many
38 stage roles and appear in many movies and television series.
39 Boyce had a starring role in a movie based on Eudora Welty's book
40 called "*The Ponder Heart*." He remained an active member of the
41 Screen Actor's Guild; and

42 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wonderful wife, Annie Louise
43 Holleman; his two daughters, Diane Holleman Kiser and her husband
44 Mitch, and Beth Holleman; his four sons, David Holleman, Mike
45 Holleman, Tim Holleman and his wife Lisa, Dean Holleman and his
46 wife Laurie; three stepdaughters and one stepson; and

47 WHEREAS, Boyce Holleman will surely be missed, but his legacy
48 lives on in the love the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast have
49 for Mississippi's rich literary heritage and in the respect of the
50 members of The Mississippi Bar for a well-known practitioner:

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
52 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
53 we do hereby commend the life of well-known Gulfport attorney,
54 actor, World War II veteran and civic treasure, Jesse Boyce
55 Holleman, and express to his family the sympathy of the
56 Legislature on his passing.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
58 the surviving family of Boyce Holleman and be made available to
59 the Capitol Press Corps.