

By: Senator(s) Chaney, Michel, Posey,
Morgan, Hyde-Smith, Harvey, Ross, Frazier,
Kirby, Thames, Butler, Carmichael, Clarke,
Gollott, Harden, Hewes, Jackson (11th), Lee
(35th), Little, Pickering, Thomas, White,
Williamson, Jackson (32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 580

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, CAREER AND
2 LEGACY OF CHARITABLE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI,
3 BUSINESSMAN WARREN A. HOOD.

4 WHEREAS, Warren A. Hood, a Jackson, Mississippi, businessman,
5 civic leader and friend to many charitable organizations, died on
6 Tuesday, March 2, 2004; and

7 WHEREAS, in his day, he was the leading businessman of the
8 state, and he will be remembered for his industrial expertise, his
9 involvement with the redevelopment of downtown Jackson and the
10 innumerable charities he helped; and

11 WHEREAS, former Governor William Winter, one of Warren Hood's
12 personal friends and a fellow church member at Fondren
13 Presbyterian Church, called Warren Hood one of Mississippi's
14 greatest citizen leaders. He never held public office, nor did he
15 aspire to public office, but he left a mark on this state that has
16 not been exceeded or even equaled by most of the public leaders of
17 this state; and

18 WHEREAS, Warren Hood, 87, began his career in 1940 at a small
19 sawmill near his home in Copiah County and went on to acquire
20 numerous lumber and diversified manufacturing plants under the
21 umbrella of Hood Industries, Inc. Before the company's merger
22 with the Masonite Corporation in 1970, Hood Industries was the
23 largest producer of southern yellow pine east of the Mississippi
24 River; and

25 WHEREAS, Warren Hood served on Masonite Corporation's Board
26 of Directors and Executive Committee until 1982, when the lumber
27 and woodlands operations were spun off to form Timber Realization

28 Company. He served as a general partner until the partnership was
29 liquidated in 1987. He worked with local economic development
30 officers for about two years to find a buyer for the DeSoto
31 Corporation that made furniture primarily for Sears and had
32 announced plans to close in 1983. When no buyer came forward,
33 Hood joined with family members and purchased the facility in
34 Jackson and operated Hood Furniture Manufacturing Company until it
35 closed in 1986; and

36 WHEREAS, Warren Hood held a major stake in about 50
37 businesses that ranged from Southern Bag Corporation in Yazoo City
38 to Ole Diz Charcoal Briquets in Pachuta; and

39 WHEREAS, Warren Hood, who did not graduate from college but
40 received honorary doctorates from Belhaven College and Millsaps
41 College, contributed to numerous universities and schools and
42 raised funds for countless charitable organizations. He enacted a
43 policy at Hood Industries of paying the tuition for any child of
44 an employee who wanted to attend community college. Hood served
45 for 26 years on Belhaven College's Board of Trustees, and the
46 college's library is named in his honor; and

47 WHEREAS, one of Hood's greatest legacies is the Warren Hood
48 Scout Reservation which he donated to the Andrew Jackson Council
49 of Boy Scouts of America. The camp opened in 1987 and covers
50 1,700 acres about 12 miles west of Hazlehurst in Covich County;
51 and

52 WHEREAS, survivors include daughters Kay Adams and Peggy
53 Louis of Jackson, and sons Warren A. Hood, Jr., of Hattiesburg and
54 James W. Hood of Jackson. Hood's wife, Elsie Meadows Hood, died
55 in 2002; and

56 WHEREAS, Warren Hood worked tirelessly to improve the City of
57 Jackson and headed civic organizations such as the Jackson Metro
58 Chamber of Commerce; and

59 WHEREAS, Mr. Hood was a self-made man who was kind, generous
60 and could be trusted implicitly, and it is with sadness that we

61 note the passing of this model businessman and Mississippi
62 citizen:

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
64 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
65 we do hereby commend the life, career and legacy of charitable and
66 public service of Jackson businessman Warren A. Hood, and express
67 to his surviving family the sympathy of the Legislature on his
68 passing.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
70 the surviving family of Warren A. Hood and be made available to
71 the Capitol Press Corps.