

By: Senator(s) Dawkins

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 509

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
2 DR. JULIUS JOHN "J.J." HAYDEN, JR., OF PASS CHRISTIAN,
3 MISSISSIPPI, WHO IS CREDITED WITH EXPANDING RURAL PERKINSTON
4 JUNIOR COLLEGE INTO THE STATE'S FIRST MULTICAMPUS JUNIOR COLLEGE,
5 AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Julius John "J.J." Hayden, Jr.'s career as a
7 junior college administrator was unprecedented in Mississippi
8 history; and

9 WHEREAS, "J.J." Hayden, who died Sunday, October 10, 2004, at
10 age 84, took charge of a small rural junior college with
11 facilities valued at just over \$1 Million and turned it into
12 Mississippi's first multicampus institution with a net worth of
13 more than \$35 Million when he retired; and

14 WHEREAS, during his tenure, the single Mississippi Gulf Coast
15 Community College installation at Perkinston grew to seven major
16 facilities, at least one of which was located in each of the four
17 counties comprising the college's service district - Harrison,
18 Stone, Jackson and George; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Hayden, a native of Pass Christian, played
20 football at Harrison-Stone-Jackson Junior College at Perkinston.
21 Graduating in 1940, he entered military service; he later earned
22 bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State; and in
23 1950, he and his wife, Lillian, returned to "Perk"; and

24 WHEREAS, he taught history for two years and in 1952 was
25 appointed Dean of Men. The following year, at the age of 33, he
26 became the ninth Chief Executive Officer (the second to hold the
27 official title of president) of the institution which was then
28 styled Perkinston Junior College and Agricultural High School; and

29 WHEREAS, World War II caused the growth of Gulf Coast towns
30 and Hayden realized the people of the Gulf Coast could not come to
31 Perk for an education, so Perk would have to establish educational
32 installations throughout the Gulf Coast to serve them. In early
33 May 1962, the Legislature established the Mississippi Gulf Coast
34 Junior College District. This landmark legislation became the
35 model for the formation of junior college districts throughout the
36 state; and

37 WHEREAS, the National Education Association (NEA) recognized
38 Dr. Hayden's efforts in establishing Mississippi's first
39 multicampus junior college by naming him the NEA Pacemaker Award
40 recipient for 1966. The NEA particularly commended Hayden's
41 efforts on behalf of vocational-technical education; and

42 WHEREAS, when Hayden became President of Perkinston Junior
43 College and Agricultural High School in 1953, the single
44 installation at Perkinston enrolled 473 full-time students and
45 produced 104 graduates. In the school year preceding Hayden's
46 retirement on December 31, 1985, the college's seven installations
47 enrolled 4,511 full-time students and graduated 772. The growth
48 in facilities has permitted the college to expand its offerings to
49 include more than 30 university parallel programs, nearly 50
50 occupational programs, plus adult and continuing education
51 programs; and

52 WHEREAS, his civic activities included membership on the
53 Board of Governors for the Southern Association of Colleges and
54 Schools. He served as President of the Mississippi Education
55 Association; and

56 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of this
57 visionary Mississippi educator, who touched the lives of millions
58 of students and their families:

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
60 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
61 we do hereby commend the life and legacy of Dr. Julius John "J.J."

62 Hayden, Jr., of Pass Christian, Mississippi, who is credited with
63 expanding rural Perkinston Junior College into the state's first
64 multicampus junior college today known as Mississippi Gulf Coast
65 Community College, and express to his wife of 61 years Lillian
66 Ruth (Aschbacher) Hayden and his surviving family the sympathy of
67 the Legislature on his passing.

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
69 the surviving family of Dr. Hayden, the Board of Trustees of
70 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and be made available to
71 the Capitol Press Corps.