

By: Senator(s) Little, Nunnelee, Browning

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 586

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CAREER AND PUBLIC  
2 SERVICE OF FORMER STATE SENATOR, CIRCUIT JUDGE AND WORLD WAR II  
3 VETERAN FRED WICKER OF PONTOTOC, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, former State Senator Thomas Frederick (Fred) Wicker  
5 of Pontotoc, Mississippi, retired December 31, 1990, following a  
6 legal career of more than 42 years, the last 20 of which were  
7 spent as Circuit Judge; and

8 WHEREAS, a native of Hickory Flat in Benton County,  
9 Mississippi, he graduated from Hickory Flat High School, where he  
10 was President of his Senior class. He enrolled at Holmes Junior  
11 College in September 1941, where he was a member of the football  
12 team, remaining in school there until he was drafted into military  
13 service in February 1943. Following almost three years of active  
14 duty in the Army and Army Air Corps (which included tours in  
15 England, France, Belgium and Germany) and where he was a  
16 Championship Boxer, he was discharged on January 1, 1946, and  
17 immediately returned to Holmes Junior College to resume his  
18 education, receiving his diploma in May 1946; and

19 WHEREAS, entering Ole Miss Law School in June 1946, Wicker  
20 served as class President and received his law degree in June  
21 1948. Shortly thereafter, he and his wife, Wordna, moved to  
22 Pontotoc where he has resided since that time. He was engaged in  
23 the general practice of law until September 1970, during which  
24 time he served 12 years as County Prosecuting Attorney, 8 years as  
25 Pontotoc City Attorney, and three years as Mississippi State  
26 Senator (January 1968 to September 1970) representing the counties  
27 of Pontotoc, Union and Benton; and

28           WHEREAS, on September 1, 1970, he was appointed Circuit Judge  
29 of the First Circuit Court District to fill the unexpired term of  
30 Judge N.S. Sweat, Jr. He thereafter was elected to the position  
31 five times until his retirement; and

32           WHEREAS, he was married in June 1948 to the former Wordna  
33 Threadgill of Big Creek, Calhoun County, Mississippi, who he had  
34 met at Holmes Junior College, and who died in March 2004. They  
35 have two children, Ellen Wicker Cummings of Virginia Beach,  
36 Virginia, and Congressman and former State Senator Roger Frederick  
37 Wicker of Tupelo, Mississippi, and a foster daughter, Mindy Theile  
38 of Canton, Georgia. They have five grandchildren; and

39           WHEREAS, Judge Wicker has been active in the Pontotoc Rotary  
40 Club for 57 years, having served as President. He has been named  
41 a Paul Harris Fellow. He is a member of American Legion Post 16  
42 in Pontotoc where he has served as Commander, Chairman for Boys  
43 State and Girls State and Coach of the American Legion Baseball  
44 Team. He is a member of First Baptist Church in Pontotoc where he  
45 has served as Chairman of the Deacons, Sunday School teacher and a  
46 member of two Pastor search committees. In 1998, he was presented  
47 the Distinguished Service Award by Holmes Community College; and

48           WHEREAS, in retirement, he continues to be active in his  
49 community. He is a member of the Pontotoc County Tale Tellers, an  
50 avid hunter and annually serves at the Pontotoc Bodock Festival.  
51 He continues to teach Sunday School and is an active member of the  
52 Rotary Club and American Legion. He has had perfect attendance at  
53 the Grand Reunion held annually in the State Senate; and

54           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the career  
55 of this dedicated public servant, whose legacy lives on in the  
56 respect of the members of The Mississippi Bar and the Mississippi  
57 Legislature for a well-known practitioner:

58           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
59 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
60 we do hereby commend the career and public service of former State

61 Senator, Circuit Judge and World War II Veteran, Thomas F. (Fred)  
62 Wicker of Pontotoc, Mississippi, and extend to him and his family  
63 the best wishes of the Legislature in their future endeavors.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
65 Honorable Fred Wicker and be made available to the Capitol Press  
66 Corps.