

By: Senator(s) Dearing, Butler, To: Rules
Posey, Simmons, Frazier, Horhn

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CHARITABLE AND CIVIC SERVICE OF
2 REVEREND WINDELL GREENE, SR., OF NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI, ON THE
3 OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, Reverend Windell Greene, Sr., of Natchez,
5 Mississippi, has served his church, community and state in many
6 capacities; and

7 WHEREAS, Windell Greene, Sr., was born on May 9, 1941, to the
8 late Jimmy and Susie Greene in Vidalia, Louisiana, one mile from
9 Natchez, Mississippi, across the Mississippi River Bridge. His
10 family included six brothers and six sisters; and

11 WHEREAS, he was educated in the Concordia Parish Public
12 Schools. After graduation, he enrolled at Southern University in
13 Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he received his Bachelor's degree in
14 Social Studies in 1963. He worked his way through college at the
15 State Industrial School for Colored Youths near Baton Rouge. It
16 was at this school that Greene would practice many of his
17 counseling skills that would serve him well later in life. He
18 became a motivating force and role model for men who were older
19 and much more experienced than he; and

20 WHEREAS, even before attending college, Greene had determined
21 to be a minister of the gospel. He preached his first sermon at
22 the age of 17 on Christmas Day at the Masonic Hall in Vidalia,
23 Louisiana. His unassuming demeanor and love of the gospel caught
24 the attention of a Minister of the Church of Christ, Clarence
25 Shaffner. Reverend Shaffner was instrumental in Greene's decision
26 to further his education at Southern University. While attending
27 college, he was named Minister at the Frogmore Church of Christ in

28 Louisiana at the age of 19 and would travel home on the weekends
29 to conduct services; and

30 WHEREAS, at Southern University, Greene met and married
31 Elnora Martin of Jonesboro, Louisiana, on October 27, 1963. Five
32 children blessed that union: LaWendellyn Greene Franklin of
33 Vidalia, Louisiana; Donnell Green, Windell Greene, Jr., and Dwight
34 Greene of Jackson, Mississippi; and Dr. Montrell Green of
35 Cleveland, Mississippi. All of his children are active in the
36 congregations in the cities where they reside. He has nine
37 grandchildren; and

38 WHEREAS, after marriage, Greene continued to serve as
39 Minister of the Frogmore Church of Christ. He later moved to
40 Buffalo in Wilkinson County, then to Woodlawn in Natchez. During
41 this time, he worked in Vidalia teaching Social Studies and
42 English. When the congregation at Woodlawn moved to the Fourth
43 Street location, Windell Greene became the full-time Minister of
44 what is now the Fourth Street Church of Christ in 1985. He
45 retired from the Vidalia School System after 22 years to devote
46 his full attention to the church and preaching the gospel. It is
47 a decision he has never regretted. He has nurtured the growth of
48 his congregation from 15 members to nearly 400; and

49 WHEREAS, Green has also been a servant in his community. He
50 is involved in the prison ministry at Angola Penitentiary in
51 Louisiana. He delivers "Manna in the Morning," a radio broadcast
52 on WTYJ in Natchez. He has served on numerous boards and
53 committees throughout the years, including:

54 • Founded the United League of Organizations that secured
55 the name change of Pine Street in Natchez to Dr. Martin Luther
56 King, Jr. Street;

57 • National Park Committee which gained Melrose Plantation
58 National Park status;

59 • Advisory Board for Britton & Koontz National Bank;

- 60 • Natchez-Adams Bi-Racial Committee charged with
61 desegregating Natchez Public Schools;
62 • NAACP Board of Directors;
63 • Chairman of Ministerial Unification Committee that served
64 as liaison between political factions and city officials;
65 • Mississippi State Commission on Teacher and Administrator
66 Education;
67 • Appointed by the State Superintendent of Education on the
68 Administration Preparation Task Force;
69 • Currently serves as Vice President of Council on Aging;
70 and

71 WHEREAS, he has received many awards and accolades:

- 72 • Ten Most Influential African-Americans in 1994;
73 • Named Pastor of the Year by *Bluff City Post*;
74 • James Cothern Award of Recognition;
75 • Windell Greene Day on May 8, 1999, jointly by city and
76 county; and

77 WHEREAS, Greene still resides in Natchez, Mississippi, with
78 his bride of 43 years. He plans to continue to labor in the
79 Kingdom of God in a more limited capacity; and

80 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
81 selfless charitable and civic service and leadership of this
82 Mississippi citizen:

83 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
84 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the charitable and civic
85 service of Reverend Windell Greene, Sr., of Natchez, Mississippi,
86 and extend to him and his family the best wishes of the Senate on
87 the occasion of his retirement as Minister of Fourth Street Church
88 of Christ, Natchez, Mississippi.

89 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
90 Reverend Greene and his family and be made available to the
91 Capitol Press Corps.