

By: Representatives Akins, McBride, Reynolds To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 109

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROFESSOR GEORGE  
2 ANTHONY CARBONE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY.

3 WHEREAS, Professor George Anthony Carbone, born on May 14,  
4 1917, will reach a magnificent milestone on that date and turn 90  
5 years old; and

6 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone served as a teacher and mentor who  
7 energized the intellect of the generation of students at the  
8 University of Mississippi that followed World War II.

9 WHEREAS, with insight and wisdom and a commanding presence in  
10 the classroom, Professor Carbone taught students the lessons of  
11 history of the Old World from which our ancestors and our nation  
12 came.

13 WHEREAS, though Professor Carbone's professional and academic  
14 career took him back to his native West Coast where his family  
15 lived, it is altogether fitting and proper that the people of  
16 Mississippi, honor and commemorate his 15 years of distinguished  
17 service in this state; and

18 WHEREAS, born in Napa, California, Professor Carbone lived  
19 for a number of years in San Francisco, California, and in 1940 he  
20 married Marguerite Rodoani and they had two children, Edwin  
21 Frederick and Karen Jones, twins born December 5, 1943; and

22 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone's formal educational achievements  
23 include a bachelor of arts degree from the University of  
24 California in 1939, a master of arts in history from the  
25 University of California in 1941, and a doctor of philosophy in  
26 history from the University of California in 1947; and

27           WHEREAS, while receiving his formal education, Professor  
28 Carbone served as a Teaching Fellow and a Junior Instructor in  
29 history at the University of California, was awarded a Sigmund  
30 Martin Traveling Fellowship to Harvard University for 1945-1946  
31 and served as a Teaching Fellow in history at Harvard in the  
32 spring semester of 1946; and

33           WHEREAS, it was the good fortune of the State of Mississippi  
34 that on September 1, 1946, Professor Carbone became Acting  
35 Associate Professor of History at the University of Mississippi,  
36 rising to Associate Professor of History on June 2, 1947, and full  
37 Professor of History on September 1, 1949; and

38           WHEREAS, Professor Carbone left Ole Miss, at the end of the  
39 1961 academic year, having enriched the minds and understanding of  
40 a special generation of young Mississippians; and

41           WHEREAS, through his years at Ole Miss, Professor Carbone  
42 taught a broad spectrum of courses in the History of Western  
43 Civilization, beginning with his annual offerings in History 101,  
44 From the Decline of the Roman Empire through 1688, and the  
45 Glorious Revolution in England, and followed in the second  
46 semester with History 102, beginning with the English Bill of  
47 Rights and focusing on European History from 1689 through the then  
48 present time; and

49           WHEREAS, Professor Carbone's freshman history survey courses  
50 occasioned a great awakening for so many who returned for his  
51 upper level courses in Revolutionary Europe, 1789-1848; European  
52 Diplomacy, 1848-1914; Russian History; and Greek and Roman  
53 History; and

54           WHEREAS, as a function of his eminence as a Scholar in  
55 Russian History, Professor Carbone served as host for a remarkable  
56 1955 visit to the University of Mississippi by Alexander Kerensky,  
57 leader of the Russian Provisional Government following the fall of  
58 Tsar Nicholas II in February 1917, only to see his hopes for a

59 democratically elected constituent assembly in Russia dashed with  
60 the Bolshevik takeover in 1917; and

61 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone served as faculty advisor to  
62 foreign students attending Ole Miss, mentoring many coming to this  
63 country for the first time; and

64 WHEREAS, notably, in March 1957, Professor Carbone welcomed  
65 John G. Adler and Charles Tilly, each a refugee from Soviet  
66 repression in their native Hungary the year before and Adler  
67 became Chairman of Adaptec, Inc., and has endowed a scholarship at  
68 the University of Mississippi School of Engineering; and

69 WHEREAS, during his years at the University of Mississippi,  
70 Professor Carbone was a member of the History Honor Society,  
71 Language Honor Society, American Historical Association, Pi Mu  
72 Iota, American Association of University Professors, Southern  
73 Historical Society and other professional organizations; and

74 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone has cherished his Italian heritage  
75 and in his credentials offered to the University of Mississippi,  
76 to show fitness for his new position, Professor Carbone listed  
77 that he was a Reader in Italian and Diplomatic History; and

78 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone flourished in special  
79 opportunities for study and teaching in the land of his forebears  
80 and from 1949-1950, he was a Fulbright Scholar in Italy, while on  
81 leave from the University of Mississippi; and

82 WHEREAS, for the 1955-1956 academic year, Professor Carbone  
83 was a Fulbright Lecturer in Political History at the Institute of  
84 European Studies at the University of Turin in Turin, Italy; and

85 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone's imposing appearance in the  
86 classroom, punctuated by premature baldness, generated the  
87 occasional freshman speculation that he bore a resemblance to  
88 Benito Mussolini, always drawing a smile followed by a gentle, but  
89 unequivocal assurance that he was no admirer of the fascist  
90 dictator of Italy, no matter how punctual the trains may have  
91 been; and

92           WHEREAS, in 1961, Professor Carbone felt the call of his  
93 family and home and accepted a position at what is now Portland  
94 State University, because of "his desire to be closer to his  
95 children and elderly parents," and so in the fall of 1961, he  
96 joined the history faculty at Portland State University, where he  
97 remains Professor of History Emeritus in the Department of Liberal  
98 Arts and Sciences; and

99           WHEREAS, students of Professor Carbone for those 15 years at  
100 the University of Mississippi have grown to maturity, pursued  
101 their diverse careers and life patterns in all parts of America,  
102 but many remained in Mississippi; and

103           WHEREAS, Professor George Anthony Carbone lost his lovely  
104 wife of 60 years in 2000, having previously lost his son, Edwin,  
105 in 1989, at the age of 46; and

106           WHEREAS, Professor Carbone enjoys his daughter, Karen, three  
107 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, who lovingly support  
108 him in all of his endeavors; and

109           WHEREAS, as a testament of Professor Carbone's love of  
110 Mississippi, he recently wrote to a former student, "Another  
111 memory I cherish is the basic courtesy and common decency of  
112 Mississippi students. I hope this hasn't changed"; and

113           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
114 express appreciation and gratitude for great individuals such as  
115 Professor George Anthony Carbone, who enriched the minds and  
116 ennobled the lives of his many students, who in turn have made  
117 this state and nation a better place to live:

118           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
119 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
120 extend warmest wishes to Professor George Anthony Carbone for a  
121 happy 90th birthday and express great gratitude for his  
122 contributions to the State of Mississippi.

123           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
124 furnished to Professor George Anthony Carbone, Chancellor of the

125 University of Mississippi, and to the members of the Capitol Press  
126 Corps.