

By: Senator(s) Tollison, Bryan, Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 640

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

4 WHEREAS, Professor George Anthony Carbone served as a teacher
5 and mentor who energized the intellect of the generation of
6 students at the University of Mississippi that followed World War
7 II. With insight and wisdom and a commanding presence in the
8 classroom, Professor Carbone taught us the lessons of history of
9 the Old World from which our ancestors and our nation came. He
10 turns 90 years old on May 14, 2007. Though his professional and
11 academic career took him back to his native West Coast where his
12 family lived, it is altogether fitting and proper that the people
13 of Mississippi honor and commemorate his 15 years of distinguished
14 service in this state; and

15 WHEREAS, George Anthony Carbone was born on May 14, 1917, in
16 Napa, California, and for a number of years lived in San
17 Francisco, California. He married Marguerite Rodoani in 1940.
18 The Carbones had two children, Edward Frederick and Karen Joan,
19 twins born December 5, 1942; and

20 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone's formal educational achievements
21 include a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of
22 California in 1939, a Master of Arts in History from the
23 University of California in 1941, and a Doctor of Philosophy in
24 History from the University of California in 1947. During these
25 times, he served as a Teaching Fellow, and then Junior Instructor
26 in History at the University of California, and was awarded a
27 Sigmund Martin Traveling Fellowship to Harvard University,

28 1945-1946. He served as a Teaching Fellow in History at Harvard
29 in the Spring semester 1946; and

30 WHEREAS, it was the State of Mississippi's good fortune that
31 on September 1, 1946, George Anthony Carbone became Acting
32 Associate Professor of History at the University of Mississippi,
33 rising to Associate Professor of History on June 2, 1947, and full
34 Professor of History on September 1, 1949. Professor Carbone left
35 Ole Miss at the end of the 1961 academic year, having enriched the
36 minds and understanding of a special generation of young
37 Mississippians; and

38 WHEREAS, through his years at Ole Miss, Professor Carbone
39 taught a broad spectrum of courses in the History of Western
40 Civilization, beginning with his annual offerings in History 101
41 -- From the Decline of the Roman Empire through 1688 and the
42 Glorious Revolution in England; and then in the second semester,
43 History 102, beginning with the English Bill of Rights and
44 focusing on European History from 1689 through the then present.
45 Professor Carbone's freshman history survey courses occasioned a
46 great awakening for so many who returned for his upper level
47 courses in Revolutionary Europe, 1789-1848, European Diplomacy,
48 1848-1914, Russian History, and Greek and Roman History; and

49 WHEREAS, as a function of his eminence as a Scholar in
50 Russian History, Professor Carbone served as host for a remarkable
51 1947 visit to the University of Mississippi by Alexander Kerensky,
52 leader of the Russian Provisional Government following the fall of
53 Tsar Nicholas II in February of 1917, only to see his hopes for a
54 democratically elected constituent assembly in Russia dashed with
55 the Bolshevik takeover in 1917; and

56 WHEREAS, Professor Carbone served as faculty advisor to
57 foreign students attending Ole Miss, mentoring so many coming to
58 this country for the first time. Notably, in March of 1957,
59 Professor Carbone welcomed John G. Adler and Charles Tilly, each a
60 refugee from Soviet repression in their native Hungary the year

61 before. Adler became Chairman of Adaptec, Inc., and has endowed a
62 scholarship at the University of Mississippi School of
63 Engineering; and

64 WHEREAS, during his years at the University of Mississippi,
65 Professor Carbone was a member of History Honor Society, Language
66 Honor Society, American Historical Association, Pi Mu Iota,
67 American Association of University Professors, I.R.C., Southern
68 Historical Society and other professional organizations; and

69 WHEREAS, George Anthony Carbone has ever cherished his
70 Italian heritage. In his credentials offered to the University of
71 Mississippi in 1946, to show fitness for his new position,
72 Professor Carbone listed that he was a Reader in Italian and
73 Diplomatic History. He flourished in special opportunities for
74 study and teaching in the land of his forbears. For the 1949-1950
75 academic year, he was a Fulbright Scholar in Italy, while on leave
76 from the University of Mississippi. For the 1955-1956 academic
77 year, he was a Fulbright Lecturer in Political History at the
78 Institute of European Studies at the University of Turin in Turin,
79 Italy. His imposing appearance in the classroom, punctuated by
80 premature baldness, generated the occasional freshman speculation
81 that he bore a resemblance to Benito Mussolini, always drawing a
82 smile followed by a gentle but unequivocal assurance that he was
83 no admirer of the fascist dictator of Italy, no matter how
84 punctual the trains may have been; and

85 WHEREAS, in 1961, George Anthony Carbone felt the call of his
86 family and home. He accepted a position at what is now Portland
87 State University because of "his desire to be closer to his
88 children and elderly parents"; and so in the Fall of 1961, he
89 joined the history faculty at Portland State University, where he
90 remains Professor of History Emeritus in the Department of Liberal
91 Arts and Sciences; and

92 WHEREAS, students of Professor George Anthony Carbone for
93 those 15 years at the University of Mississippi have grown to

94 maturity, pursued their diverse career and life patterns in all
95 parts of America, but many at home in Mississippi. The many who
96 remain look back and know that Professor Carbone enabled their
97 minds to grow; and

98 WHEREAS, Professor George Anthony Carbone lost his wife of 60
99 years in 2000, having previously lost his son, Edward, in 1989 at
100 the age of 46. On the brighter side, Professor Carbone enjoys his
101 daughter, Karen, three grandchildren and seven
102 great-grandchildren. As he recently wrote to a former student,
103 "Another memory I cherish is the basic courtesy and common decency
104 of Mississippi students. I hope this hasn't changed":

105 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
106 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
107 we do hereby express our appreciation and gratitude for the gift
108 of fifteen years of the life of Professor George Anthony Carbone,
109 which enriched the minds and ennobled the lives of his many
110 students who, in turn, have made this state and nation a better
111 place to live.

112 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That by this means the people of
113 Mississippi extend their every good wish as his 90th birthday
114 approaches, with the hope that his sunset years will ever carry
115 fond memories of his days among us.

116 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution be presented to
117 Professor George Anthony Carbone, and be made available to the
118 Chancellor of the University of Mississippi and the Capitol Press
119 Corps.