

By: Senator(s) Little, Dearing

To: Adopted

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 33

1 A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND SENATOR CHARLIE ROSS FOR HIS
2 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE.

3 WHEREAS, Senator Charlie Ross is retiring from the
4 Mississippi Senate to run for higher office after serving 11 years
5 in the Legislature; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Charlie Ross is a man of integrity and hard
7 work with a complete knowledge of Mississippi's legal system, and
8 there is an acknowledged respect of our esteemed colleague,
9 gentleman and enlightened lawmaker; and

10 WHEREAS, Charlie Ross currently serves as Senator from
11 District 20 in the Mississippi Senate. District 20 is comprised
12 of parts of Madison and Rankin Counties; and

13 WHEREAS, in the Senate, Charlie serves as Chairman of the
14 Judiciary A Committee, which handles a wide variety of legislative
15 issues, including civil justice matters. He also serves on the
16 Constitution; Elections; Environmental Protection, Conservation &
17 Water Resources; Executive Contingent Fund; Finance; Insurance;
18 and Veterans and Military Affairs Committees; and

19 WHEREAS, Charlie was first elected to the Senate in 1997
20 after serving as a Representative from District 59 in the
21 Mississippi House of Representatives; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2004, as Chairman of the Judiciary A Committee,
23 Charlie drafted the comprehensive Tort Reform Bill and was the
24 leader in the Senate in the successful fight to pass the bill.
25 Senator Merle Flowers (R-DeSoto) says, "Senator Charlie Ross'
26 leadership and knowledge of our civil justice system was crucial
27 in the tort reform fight. Charlie knew what needed to be done,

28 and he knew how to do it. Mississippi is fortunate to have a
29 leader of his character and ability in the Senate"; and

30 WHEREAS, in recognition of his leadership on the tort reform
31 issue, the American Tort Reform Association (ATRA) presented him
32 with the prestigious Civil Justice Achievement Award. ATRA
33 President Sherman Joyce, said, "Senator Ross provided the
34 leadership and expertise Mississippi needed to advance meaningful,
35 comprehensive civil justice reform. We commend Senator Ross for
36 his good work that will ultimately benefit the citizens of
37 Mississippi." The Tort Reform Bill was landmark legislation that
38 is now being held out as a model for other states. ATRA is the
39 only national organization dedicated exclusively to tort and
40 liability reform; and

41 WHEREAS, in 1988, Charlie obtained his J.D. with honors from
42 Harvard Law School. In addition to his Senate duties, Charlie
43 maintains a full law practice, concentrating on civil litigation.
44 He is a shareholder in the Jackson law firm of Wise Carter Child
45 and Caraway. He is admitted to practice before all Mississippi
46 courts, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme
47 Court; and

48 WHEREAS, Charlie is a 1978 distinguished graduate of the U.S.
49 Air Force Academy, with a B.S. Degree in Economics. After the
50 Academy, he served on active duty as a fighter interceptor pilot.
51 In 1991, he was activated and served as a C-141 pilot during
52 Desert Storm with the Mississippi Air National Guard; and

53 WHEREAS, Charlie grew up and attended high school in Eupora,
54 Webster County, Mississippi. He and his family currently live in
55 Rankin County, where he is active in numerous civic and community
56 organizations. He and his family are members of Lakeside
57 Presbyterian Church, where he serves as a Sunday School Teacher;
58 and

59 WHEREAS, Charlie and his wife, Sharon, have three boys --
60 Andy (24), David (21) and Steven (17); and

61 WHEREAS, Senator Ross' service has been marked by his
62 commitment to success and recognized leadership, sound judgment
63 and fairness. He has set the highest standard in all of his many
64 roles, as a father, husband, attorney, officer, citizen, statesman
65 and leader in the Mississippi Senate and as a true friend:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
67 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and recognize Senator
68 Charlie Ross, whose outstanding service enriched everyone with
69 whom he was associated, and we wish Charlie and his family much
70 success in their future endeavors.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
72 Senator Charlie Ross and be made available to the Capitol Press
73 Corps.