

By: Senator(s) Jones, Blount, Browning, Bryan, Burton, Butler (36th), Butler (38th), Carmichael, Chassaniol, Clarke, Collins, Dawkins, Doty, Fillingane, Frazier, Gandy, Gollott, Hale, Harkins, Hill, Hopson, Horhn, Hudson, Jackson (11th), Jackson (15th), Jackson (32nd), Jolly, Jordan, Kirby, Lee, Longwitz, Massey, McDaniel, Montgomery, Moran, Norwood, Parker, Parks, Polk, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th), Smith, Sojourner, Stone, Tindell, Tollison, Turner, Ward, Watson, Wiggins, Wilemon, Younger

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 505

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMENDING THE
2 LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF FORMER SENATOR AND JUDGE RAY HILMAN
3 MONTGOMERY OF CANTON, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF
4 THE LEGISLATURE ON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, the Legislature and the State of Mississippi lost a
6 wonderful friend, colleague, gentleman and enlightened jurist with
7 the death of former State Senator Ray Hilman Montgomery (79), on
8 December 14, 2014; and

9 WHEREAS, Judge Ray Montgomery was born in Forest Grove,
10 Mississippi, on January 18, 1935, to Alvin Douglas Montgomery,
11 Sr., and Otice Ozella Bilbro Montgomery. At the age of 15, Ray
12 contracted polio and was a longtime volunteer and supporter of the
13 March of Dimes and served on the National Board of Easter Seals
14 for eight years; and

15 WHEREAS, he finished high school in Canton, Mississippi,
16 attended Hinds Junior College, pursued a college degree at
17 Millsaps and furthered his education by earning a law degree from



18 Jackson School of Law. He was a member of The Mississippi Bar, a
19 Mason, Wahabi Shriner, and lifelong member of First Baptist
20 Church, Canton; and

21 WHEREAS, a true public servant, Ray was elected Tax Assessor
22 of Madison County and served 8 years in that position. He was a
23 practicing attorney in Canton, elected to the Mississippi State
24 Senate, serving two terms, and was elected and served as County
25 Judge. He was elected and served as Chancery Judge until his
26 retirement. In retirement, he was appointed by the Supreme Court
27 of Mississippi as a Special Chancellor and continued to hear
28 special cases until recently; and

29 WHEREAS, while in the Senate, Ray served as Chairman of the
30 Public Property Committee and was active in Public Health and
31 Welfare certificate of need issues; and

32 WHEREAS, Ray Montgomery was preceded in death by his parents,
33 and his sister, Mary Elizabeth O'Briant. He is survived by his
34 wife of 41 years, Dorothy Gill Montgomery; brother, Alvin Douglas
35 Montgomery, Jr.; many nieces, nephews and friends; and a special
36 thank you to longtime friends Alvin and Pat Ottis; and

37 WHEREAS, Ray Montgomery was one of the most respected members
38 of the Mississippi State Senate and of The Mississippi Bar. He
39 had a commanding presence but was soft-spoken. He excelled in a
40 variety of major responsibilities and served the Senate, The
41 Mississippi Bar, his constituents, colleagues and the State of
42 Mississippi exceptionally well. Ray's public service was



43 exemplified by fairness and sound judgment, and he set the highest
44 standard as a leader in the Mississippi Senate, the Mississippi
45 judicial system, and as a true friend:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
47 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
48 we do hereby mourn the loss and commend the life and legacy of
49 public service of former Senator and Judge Ray Montgomery of
50 Canton, Mississippi, and express to his family the sympathy of the
51 Legislature on his passing and our thanks for sharing Ray with us
52 and with the State of Mississippi.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
54 the family of former Senator Ray Montgomery, forwarded to the
55 Mississippi State Bar Association, and made available to the
56 Capitol Press Corps.

