

By: Senator(s) Jackson (15th), Blackwell,
Blount, Branning, Browning, Carmichael,
Clarke, Dearing, DeBar, Fillingane, Frazier,
Hopson, Kirby, Norwood, Simmons (13th),
Stone, Burton

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 515

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. MAX K. ARINDER, FORMER
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON
3 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND EXPENDITURE REVIEW (PEER), AND HIS
4 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD OF PROGRAM EVALUATION AND LEGISLATIVE
5 OVERSIGHT.

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Max K. Arinder served as Executive Director of
7 the Joint Legislative Committee on Performance Evaluation and
8 Expenditure Review (PEER) from May 14, 1996, to June 30, 2015; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was born and raised in Mississippi and
10 was a graduate of the Jackson Public Schools. Following high
11 school, Dr. Arinder continued his education at Millsaps College
12 and the University of Southern Mississippi, from which he received
13 his Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology in 1973; and

14 WHEREAS, after nearly a decade of clinical psychological
15 practice, Dr. Arinder became employed by the PEER Committee in
16 1981 and rose to positions of increasing responsibility,
17 culminating with his appointment to the Executive Directorship in
18 1996; and



19 WHEREAS, during Dr. Arinder's tenure as Executive Director,
20 the PEER Committee issued 258 reviews of state and local
21 government programs and operations on a broad range of topics. As
22 testimony to the value that the Legislature places on PEER's
23 evaluation work, requirements for PEER oversight and evaluation
24 are increasingly being included in legislation establishing new
25 programs such as prekindergartens and charter schools; and

26 WHEREAS, the Legislature often invited Dr. Arinder to
27 participate in task forces created to study areas of programmatic
28 concern, including mental health, transportation, and the
29 implementation of criminal justice reforms enacted in 2014; and

30 WHEREAS, during Dr. Arinder's tenure, the Legislature sought
31 his advice and guidance on revitalizing Mississippi's program
32 budgeting efforts, including the enactment of House Bill No. 677,
33 2014 Regular Session, which moves the budgeting process toward the
34 use of evidence-based programs, thus ensuring that Mississippians
35 receive from programs the benefits such programs are intended to
36 provide; and

37 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder has also been instrumental in involving
38 the state in the Pew-MacArthur Foundation's Results First
39 Initiative, which brings cost/benefit analysis to bear on several
40 programs of state government; and

41 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was often invited to guest lecture at
42 our state's universities in classes devoted to public
43 administration; and



44 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was active in the programs of the
45 National Conference of State Legislatures at many levels and
46 served as the organization's Staff Chair in 2003-2004; and

47 WHEREAS, during Dr. Arinder's tenure as Executive Director,
48 the PEER Committee was recognized on 14 occasions for its impact
49 on the field of program evaluation by the National Legislative
50 Program Evaluation Society of the National Conference of State
51 Legislatures; and

52 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was also honored as the recipient of the
53 National Conference of State Legislatures' National Legislative
54 Program Evaluation Society's 2015 Outstanding Achievement Award
55 recognizing a career of exemplary service to his state and the
56 profession of program evaluation; and

57 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder also participated in several programs
58 hosted by the National Conference of State Legislatures and the
59 United States Department of State that brought expertise in
60 legislative oversight to nations of the developing world; and

61 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was a valued co-worker, leader and
62 inspiration to the many persons who served with him on the PEER
63 Committee staff; and

64 WHEREAS, Dr. Arinder was an exceptionally qualified leader,
65 mentor and public servant. Max consistently lectured on
66 professional standards of the legislative process, including
67 ethics, integrity, civility, courtesy and adherence to the Golden



68 Rule. Max's tenure honored both the Mississippi Legislature and
69 the Great State that he loved and served:

70 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
71 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
72 we commend Dr. Max K. Arinder for his years of dedicated service
73 to the PEER Committee, the Mississippi Legislature, and the State
74 of Mississippi, from 1981 to 2015, and for his many contributions
75 to the improvement of governmental effectiveness and efficiency in
76 Mississippi.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
78 Dr. Max K. Arinder, Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review
79 Board (PEER), and forwarded to members of the Capitol Press Corps.

