

By: Senator(s) Blount, Burton, Blackwell,  
Browning, Dearing, Fillingane, Frazier,  
Jolly, Parker, Simmons (13th), Jackson  
(11th), Jackson (32nd), Jackson (15th)

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 518

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND THANKING LONGTIME  
2 MISSISSIPPI CAPITOL REPORTER AND SYNDICATED COLUMNIST JACK  
3 ELLIOTT, JR., FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISSISSIPPI HISTORY AND TO  
4 THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATIVE PROCESS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
5 RETIREMENT.

6 WHEREAS, longtime Mississippi Journalist Jack Elliott, Jr.,  
7 is retiring after more than three decades at *The Associated Press*.  
8 The 66-year-old Elliott has covered politics, court cases,  
9 executions, natural disasters and a wide variety of other news  
10 stories. His final day at *The Associated Press* was Monday, August  
11 31, 2015; and

12 WHEREAS, Elliott, who lives in Forest, graduated from The  
13 University of Southern Mississippi with a communications degree in  
14 May 1971. He has been a reporter for *The Meridian Star* in  
15 Meridian, Mississippi; *The Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson, Mississippi;  
16 the now-defunct *Alabama Journal* in Montgomery, Alabama; and *United*  
17 *Press International* in Jackson, Mississippi. He also worked in  
18 public relations for the Mississippi Economic Council in the early  
19 1970s and as Washington Press Secretary for Democratic U.S.



20 Representative David Bowen of Mississippi in 1982. After  
21 Representative Bowen chose not to seek reelection, Elliott  
22 returned to Mississippi and worked at *The Jackson Daily News*; and

23 WHEREAS, Elliott joined *The Associated Press* in Oklahoma in  
24 1984 and moved back to his native Mississippi to work for the  
25 company four years later. He covered three legislative sessions  
26 in Oklahoma and 25 in Mississippi. He also covered seven  
27 Mississippi Governors: Bill Waller, Cliff Finch, William Winter,  
28 Bill Allain, Ray Mabus, Kirk Fordice and Ronnie Musgrove; and

29 WHEREAS, "Jack has been a strong, guiding hand in the Jackson  
30 bureau and served as a mentor to countless journalists," said *The*  
31 *Associated Press* Deep South Editor Jim Van Anglen. "Jack  
32 epitomizes grace and class. His energy and good cheer are  
33 legendary. Anyone who has ever had the pleasure to work with Jack  
34 will tell you he is one of the finest gentlemen and finest  
35 journalists you will ever meet"; and

36 WHEREAS, the members of the Capitol Press Corps are vital  
37 parts of the legislative process by the timely reporting of the  
38 daily actions of the House and Senate to the public in order for  
39 public input into the deliberative process. Jack Elliott served  
40 as a leader and mentor in the Capitol Press Corps. His legacy of  
41 historical reporting and remarkable intellect have enriched the  
42 reporting skills of his and colleagues. Jack Elliott is truly one  
43 of a kind:



44           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
45   MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
46   we do hereby recognize and thank Syndicated Columnist Jack Elliott  
47   for his contributions to Mississippi History and to the  
48   Mississippi legislative process, and extend the best wishes of the  
49   Legislature to Jack and his family on the occasion of his  
50   retirement.

51           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
52   Jack Elliott, forwarded to *The Associated Press*, and made  
53   available to the Capitol Press Corps.

