

By: Senator(s) Dearing, Witherspoon, Blount, To: Rules  
Blackwell, Branning, Fillingane, Frazier,  
Norwood, Parker, Simmons (12th), Simmons  
(13th), Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd),  
Burton

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 532

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FOUR DECADES OF PUBLIC  
2 SERVICE BY FORMER CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE JOE NED PIGOTT OF MCCOMB,  
3 MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE ON HIS  
4 PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, former Circuit Court Judge Joe Ned Pigott of McComb,  
6 Mississippi, a respected jurist, District Attorney and member of  
7 The Mississippi Bar, passed away on November 3, 2015, at the age  
8 of 90; and

9 WHEREAS, Judge Pigott was born October 13, 1925, in Walthall  
10 County, Mississippi, the son of John Douglas Pigott and Patty Lou  
11 Williams Pigott; and

12 WHEREAS, after graduating from McComb High School and  
13 attending Southwest Mississippi Junior College, he volunteered for  
14 military service in World War II. As a U.S. Army Intelligence  
15 Officer in Europe, he parachuted alone numerous times behind enemy  
16 lines, gathering intelligence for use in the Allied advance,  
17 destroying ancient bridges to thwart Nazi retreats, and escaping  
18 from imprisonment by the Nazi SS, all before his 20th birthday.

19 He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and was the American soldier



20 who ordered a mob in Milan, Italy, which had hung the body of  
21 Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini, to cut the body down and  
22 disperse; and

23 WHEREAS, after World War II, Joe attended the University of  
24 Mississippi and its law school, fulfilling his childhood dream of  
25 becoming a lawyer. He began practicing law in 1953, and later  
26 that year married Lorraine Holleman, beginning over 61 years of  
27 marriage, ending with Lorraine's death in June 2015; and

28 WHEREAS, in 1955, Joe began four decades of public service,  
29 first as Pike County Attorney, then as District Attorney for Pike,  
30 Walthall, Lincoln and Copiah Counties, and then as the only  
31 Circuit Court Judge for the same counties between early 1975 and  
32 mid-1992. He also served without pay as the Board Attorney for  
33 the McComb Public School District during the 1960s; and

34 WHEREAS, as a practicing lawyer, prosecutor and judge, Joe  
35 Pigott was widely respected for his knowledge of the law, and for  
36 his gifts at storytelling. National Public Radio's Storycorps  
37 Project twice selected stories told by him, one from his courtroom  
38 life and one from his childhood, for national broadcast. He was a  
39 supporter of the Pike-Amite County Library, the Pike County Arts  
40 Council, and the Mississippi's Toughest Kids Foundation; and

41 WHEREAS, Joe Pigott is survived by four of his children:  
42 Brad Pigott (Margaret), Linda Pigott Robinson (Tom), James  
43 Holleman Pigott and John William Pigott; four grandsons: David  
44 Pigott, Christopher Robinson, Chris Pigott and Carter Robinson;



45 and his brother, Arthur (Carlene) Pigott. He was preceded in  
46 death by his daughter, Carol Jean Pigott, and his sister and three  
47 brothers; and

48 WHEREAS, Judge Pigott consistently lectured on professional  
49 standards of the practice, including ethics, integrity, civility,  
50 courtesy and adherence to the Golden Rule. Joe's life honored  
51 both The Mississippi Bar and this great state that he loved and  
52 served:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
54 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
55 we do hereby recognize four decades of public service by former  
56 Circuit Court Judge Joe Ned Pigott of McComb, Mississippi, and  
57 express the sympathy of the Legislature on his passing.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
59 the surviving family of Judge Pigott, forwarded to The Mississippi  
60 Bar, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

