

By: Senator(s) Turner, Barnett, Blackmon,  
Butler, Frazier, Horhn, Jackson (11th),  
Jackson (32nd), Jordan, Norwood, Simmons  
(12th), Simmons (13th), Witherspoon, Blount,  
Burton, DeBar, Fillingane, Jolly, Parker,  
Stone

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 548

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE  
2 MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILY OF LONGTIME STATE  
3 REPRESENTATIVE ESTHER HARRISON.

4 WHEREAS, Mississippi State Representative Esther Harrison,  
5 D-Columbus, will be remembered as someone who worked for her  
6 constituents without seeking the spotlight for herself.  
7 Representative Harrison passed away on her 69th birthday on June  
8 10, 2015; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Harrison was elected to the  
10 Legislature in November 1999 and took office in January 2000 to  
11 represent District 41, which is entirely in Lowndes County. The  
12 Columbus native was a former Teacher and Business Administrator.  
13 Republican Governor Phil Bryant said he and his wife, Deborah,  
14 were saddened to learn of Harrison's death. Rickey Cole, Chairman  
15 of the Mississippi Democratic Party, said Harrison leaves a  
16 "legacy of service" that improved the state. "She worked quietly  
17 and effectively for the people of her district, never seeking  
18 fanfare or the spotlight"; and



19           WHEREAS, Harrison was Chair of the House State Library  
20 Committee in the 2008-2012 term and was Vice Chair of the  
21 committee this term (2012-2016). She also served on the  
22 tax-writing Ways and Means Committee. Esther was a past Co-Chair  
23 for the House Democratic Caucus. Harrison was an Eastern Star and  
24 a member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, the Lowndes County League  
25 of Voters, Helping Hands, and was a life member of the NAACP and  
26 served as President of the Lowndes County Branch. She was an  
27 alumna of Mississippi University for Women. In 2010, she was  
28 among those opposing a suggestion by then-Governor Haley Barbour  
29 to merge some universities to save money; and

30           WHEREAS, she leaves to cherish her memories a daughter, Aubra  
31 Berenice Givens; and

32           WHEREAS, Esther Harrison lived a full life of service to her  
33 community, her family and her state. Her great and good spirit  
34 enriched the lives of all her colleagues and the citizens of the  
35 State of Mississippi:

36           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
37 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
38 we do hereby mourn the loss and commend the life and public  
39 service of longtime State Representative Esther Harrison of  
40 Columbus, Mississippi, and extend the condolences of the  
41 Mississippi Legislature to her surviving family.



42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
43 the surviving family of Representative Esther Harrison and made  
44 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

