

By: Senator(s) Bryan, Burton,
Dearing, Gollott, Jackson (11th)

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMENDING THE LIFE AND
2 PUBLIC SERVICE OF BRADFORD JOHNSON DYE, JR., LONG-TIME LEGISLATOR
3 AND FORMER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR FROM CHARLESTON, MISSISSIPPI, AND
4 EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

5 WHEREAS, the Legislature and the State of Mississippi lost a
6 wonderful friend, colleague, gentleman, Capitol icon and
7 enlightened lawmaker with the death of former Lieutenant Governor
8 Bradford Johnson Dye, Jr., 84, on Sunday, July 1, 2018. Phil
9 Bryant, by the authority vested in the Governor by the
10 Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, proclaimed a
11 period of official mourning in the State of Mississippi and
12 ordered all flags of the United States of America and the State of
13 Mississippi to be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds
14 of the State of Mississippi and all areas under its jurisdiction
15 on Tuesday, July 3, 2018, in remembrance of this dedicated
16 Mississippi public servant; and

17 WHEREAS, after three terms as Lieutenant Governor of
18 Mississippi, Brad Dye was an Attorney with Pyle, Mills, Dye and
19 Pittman in Ridgeland until retiring in 2017. He served over 11



20 years until 2015 as Director, Public Finance, Duncan-Williams,
21 Inc., Investment Bankers based in Memphis. Beginning in 1993, he
22 was a Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Dallas for
23 11 years; and

24 WHEREAS, Brad Dye, son of Maylise Dogan Dye and Bradford J.
25 Dye, was a native of Charleston, Mississippi, where he was an
26 Eagle Scout. After graduating from Charleston High School, he
27 entered the University of Mississippi and obtained his Bachelor of
28 Business Administration in January 1957. Two years later, he
29 received his degree from the University of Mississippi Law School.
30 While at Ole Miss, Dye was active in the Associated Student Body,
31 having first been elected Treasurer and later President of the
32 Student Body. He also served two terms as President of Pi Kappa
33 Alpha Fraternity and in the 1980s, he was inducted into the Gamma
34 Iota Chapter, Pi Kappa Alpha Hall of Fame. As an undergraduate,
35 Dye was named to the Ole Miss Student Hall of Fame. After
36 graduation from law school, he practiced law in Grenada with his
37 father under the firm name of Dye & Dye; and

38 WHEREAS, in 1959, Brad was elected to the Mississippi House
39 of Representatives. Senator James O. Eastland appointed Dye as an
40 Attorney on the staff of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee in
41 Washington, D.C., where he worked from 1961 through 1964. Dye was
42 able to fulfill legislative responsibilities by taking a leave of
43 absence from his federal job during the legislative sessions; and



44 WHEREAS, in 1963, he was elected to the Mississippi State
45 Senate. In 1965, he resigned from the Senate to accept an
46 appointment by Governor Paul B. Johnson as a Commissioner on the
47 Workers' Compensation Commission; and

48 WHEREAS, in 1968, Governor John Bell Williams named Dye the
49 Executive Director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Industrial
50 Board, now the Mississippi Development Authority. During his
51 tenure at the A&I Board, the "Shipyard of the Future" was built on
52 the west bank at Ingalls Shipyard. Brad also oversaw the
53 rebuilding of the State Port at Gulfport following Hurricane
54 Camille; and

55 WHEREAS, in 1971, Brad Dye resigned as Director of the A&I
56 Board to enter the race for State Treasurer; he was elected and
57 served in that position until 1976. As State Treasurer, Brad Dye
58 was a member of the State Bond Commission, the Board of the
59 Savings and Loan Association, the State Tag Commission, and the
60 Public Employees' Retirement System, serving one term as Chairman.
61 Following an unsuccessful race for Lieutenant Governor, Brad Dye
62 became President of Jackson Savings and Loan Association, a
63 position he held from January 1976 through March 1979, when he
64 resigned to run again for the Office of Lieutenant Governor, this
65 time successfully; and

66 WHEREAS, in January 1980, Brad Dye was sworn in as the 35th
67 Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi, was twice re-elected, and
68 served until 1992, the only person in state history to hold that



69 position for 12 consecutive years. During that historic tenure,
70 he presided over the passage of legislation of immense importance.
71 The single piece of legislation which Brad Dye found most
72 gratifying was the 1987 Comprehensive Four-Lane Highway Program,
73 which is the basis of Mississippi's modern transportation system
74 and provided an essential component of economic and industrial
75 development. Dye's role was critical in the 1982 passage of
76 Governor William F. Winter's comprehensive education reform
77 package. Dye's additional impact on education included the
78 creation of the Institute of Technology Development, the founding
79 of the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science at Columbus,
80 and his demonstrated strong support of the University Medical
81 Center, the Department of Mental Health, vocational-technical
82 education, and universities and community colleges; and

83 WHEREAS, he was the Charter President of the University of
84 Mississippi Business Alumni Chapter. A life member of the Alumni
85 Association, in 2006 he was inducted into the Ole Miss Alumni Hall
86 of Fame, and in 2014 into the Ole Miss Law Alumni Hall of Fame.
87 In 2009, the Political Science Department of the University named
88 him the first recipient of its Distinguished Alumni Award and
89 established a public service scholarship in his name. He also was
90 a member of the Political Science Advisory Board; and

91 WHEREAS, in 2010, Governor Haley Barbour presented Brad Dye
92 the Mississippi Medal of Service. Brad's volunteer activities
93 have been varied. As a long-time Red Cross Water Safety



94 Instructor, he taught life-saving and swimming to hundreds of
95 young people in Grenada and Tallahatchie Counties; and

96 WHEREAS, Brad was the Charter Vice-President of the Grenada
97 Jaycees and served as the Chairman of the Grenada County Cancer
98 Society Fund Drive. After moving to Jackson in 1965, he was a
99 member of the Executive Board of the Andrew Jackson Council, Boy
100 Scouts of America, the Board of the United Way of the Capital
101 Area, the Board of Directors of Jackson Junior Achievement, the
102 Advisory Council on Programs and Research for the College of
103 Business and Industry, Mississippi State University, and the
104 Beauvoir Development Foundation, Inc. He was State Fund Chairman
105 in 1972 for the Mississippi Chapter, American Red Cross, and
106 served in 1973 and 1974 as Mississippi Heart Fund Chairman. For a
107 number of years, he coached youth sports teams in basketball,
108 baseball, and football organized by the YMCA. Brad and his wife
109 were involved with the Governor's School Parents' Association for
110 several years as Co-Chairmen. Most recently, he served on the
111 advisory board of the Mid-South Housing Foundation; and

112 WHEREAS, Dye, a life-long Methodist, was an active member of
113 three metro Jackson churches: Galloway Memorial United Methodist
114 Church, Christ United Methodist Church, and First United Methodist
115 Church of Ridgeland; and

116 WHEREAS, Brad Dye considered his most valuable legacy to be
117 his family. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, the former
118 Donna Bailey of Coffeetown, Mississippi; his three sons: Hamp



119 (Shannon) of Madison, Ford (Sonya) of Oxford, and Rick (Emily) of
120 Jackson; five grandchildren: Nathan (Hannah), David, Emma, Jack,
121 and Margaret; and one great-granddaughter, Ann Hampton; and

122 WHEREAS, Brad Dye was a master of the politics of legislative
123 negotiation and compromise. He was unafraid to cross partisan,
124 racial, sectional, or factional lines to get the business of the
125 Legislature done. He kept his fences mended with the House and
126 with Speaker C.B. "Buddie" Newman and his key Committee Chairman.
127 Former State Senator Ben Stone stated: "Brad was a long-time
128 friend and always loyal even if there was an issue on which we
129 disagreed. His leadership was much greater than the offices he
130 held. Our Gulf Coast received benefits after Hurricane Camille
131 when he directed the rebuilding of the State Port at Gulfport. He
132 was a leader in all he did. The state is a great deal better for
133 all he did. He was a magnificent example for all who want to
134 contribute to bettering all of our lives"; and

135 WHEREAS, Brad Dye loved life, laughter and the Legislature.
136 His long service was marked by his commitment to success and
137 recognized leadership. He excelled in a variety of major
138 responsibilities and served the Senate, his constituents and the
139 State of Mississippi exceptionally well. Brad's public service
140 was exemplified by fairness and sound judgment, and he set the
141 highest standard as a leader in the Mississippi Senate, and as a
142 true friend:



143 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
144 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commend the life
145 and public service of Bradford Johnson Dye, Jr., long-time
146 Legislator and former Lieutenant Governor from Charleston,
147 Mississippi, and extend the condolences of the Mississippi Senate
148 to his surviving family.

149 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
150 the surviving family of former Lieutenant Governor Brad Dye and
151 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

