

By: Senator(s) Tollison, Dearing, Kirby, Barnett, Blackmon, Blackwell, Blount, Carmichael, Caughman, Clarke, Jackson (11th), Jackson (15th), Jackson (32nd), Jordan, Massey, McMahan, Parker, Seymour, Witherspoon

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

1 A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND SENATOR WILLIE SIMMONS FOR HIS
2 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE.

3 WHEREAS, Senator Willie Simmons is retiring from the
4 Mississippi Senate to run for higher office after serving 27 years
5 in the Senate (1993-present); and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Willie Simmons is a man of integrity and
7 hard work with a complete knowledge of Mississippi's corrections
8 and highway finance, and there is an acknowledged respect of our
9 esteemed colleague, gentleman and enlightened lawmaker; and

10 WHEREAS, Willie Simmons (born March 21, 1947) is a Democratic
11 member of the Mississippi State Senate, representing District 13,
12 which comprises portions of Bolivar, Sunflower and Tallahatchie
13 Counties. He was first elected to the Senate in 1993; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Simmons attended Utica Junior College, and
15 earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Alcorn State
16 University, Master of Science Degree from Delta State University,
17 and Education Specialist (Ed.S) Degree from Delta State
18 University. His professional experience includes working in



19 administration, restaurants and consulting. He is the Owner of
20 Simmons and Associates, and The Senator's Place BBQ Restaurant in
21 Cleveland, Mississippi; and

22 WHEREAS, at the beginning of the 2015 legislative session,
23 Simmons served on the following committees: Highways and
24 Transportation, Chair; Agriculture; Appropriations; Corrections;
25 Legislative Budget; Ports and Marine Resources; Public Health and
26 Welfare; and State Library; and

27 WHEREAS, Senator Simmons is currently the Chair of the
28 Highways and Transportation Committee in the Senate. In the past
29 he has pushed for the lottery and for raising the gas tax to pay
30 for much-needed infrastructure repairs across the state; and

31 WHEREAS, he is a member of Solomon Chapel African Methodist
32 Episcopal Church and his affiliations include: American
33 Correctional Association; Bolivar County 100 Black Men; Prince
34 Hall Mason; Omega Psi Phi; NAACP; and Alcorn State University and
35 Delta State University Alumni Associations; and

36 WHEREAS, Senator Simmons is a Veteran of the Vietnam
37 Conflict; and

38 WHEREAS, Willie Simmons and his wife, Rosie, have four
39 children: Avery, Christopher, Reginald and Sarita; and

40 WHEREAS, Senator Simmons's service has been marked by his
41 commitment to success and recognized leadership, sound judgment
42 and fairness. He has set the highest standard in all his many
43 roles, as a father, husband, businessman, Veteran, citizen,



44 statesman and leader in the Mississippi Senate and as a true
45 friend:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
47 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and recognize Senator
48 Willie Simmons, whose outstanding service enriched everyone with
49 whom he was associated, and we wish Willie and his family much
50 success in their future endeavors.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
52 Senator Willie Simmons and made available to the Capitol Press
53 Corps.

