

By: Representatives Weathersby, Wallace,  
Ford (54th), Shanks, Miles, Yancey

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LAUDABLE CAREER AND  
2 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF DR. CLYDE MUSE AS PRESIDENT OF HINDS  
3 COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
4 RETIREMENT ON JUNE 30, 2020, AFTER 42 YEARS OF REMARKABLE SERVICE.

5 WHEREAS, after 68 years of service in education, 42 of which  
6 have been in the capacity as the chief administrative officer of  
7 Hinds Community College, Dr. Clyde Muse will retire his  
8 presidential regalia of mortar board and gown for a quiet morning  
9 or evening with the daily headlines on June 30, 2020; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Muse, who became president on July 1, 1978, is  
11 the longest serving community college president in Mississippi  
12 history and among the longest serving college presidents in the  
13 nation, and is often called the "godfather" of Mississippi's  
14 community colleges for his committed vision in moving all colleges  
15 forward, while exemplifying exceptional finesse in his ability to  
16 assemble diverse groups of stakeholders to bring projects to  
17 fruition; and

18 WHEREAS, a native of Benton County, Mississippi, the son of a  
19 preacher, Dr. Muse matriculated at the postsecondary level of



20 education at East Central Community College, Delta State  
21 University and Mississippi State University, and established his  
22 foundation in public education as a teacher and a coach in Canton  
23 and Starkville, before becoming a principal in Starkville, and  
24 then superintendent for the Hinds County School District from 1969  
25 to 1971 and for Meridian from 1971 to 1978, devoting 26 years in  
26 Mississippi's public K-12 education system, which included  
27 navigating the Hinds County School District through desegregation  
28 in 1970; and

29 WHEREAS, having coined the term "The College for All People"  
30 early in his presidency, Dr. Muse's unconditional love for and  
31 dedication to the students served by the college and its  
32 employees, is exemplary of his mantra in action, "working to  
33 ensure all Mississippians have the opportunity for a quality,  
34 affordable and accessible higher education"; and

35 WHEREAS, the rarity of a single individual to hold a tenure  
36 of this magnitude, while leading the college through a myriad of  
37 economic and social changes, is demonstrative of the strength,  
38 grace, dignity and unwavering commitment to put students first by  
39 an exceptional man with a servant's heart; and

40 WHEREAS, over the last 42 years, his accomplishments at the  
41 college have been vast, consisting of: improvements to  
42 infrastructure at all six Hinds locations; guiding the Jackson  
43 Campus-Academic/Technical Center and the Vicksburg-Warren Campus  
44 into comprehensive campuses; relocating the Nursing and Allied



45 Health Programs from the Raymond Campus to Jackson  
46 Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center in 1982; opening the  
47 Pearl/Rankin Vo-Tech Center in 1983, which would later become the  
48 Rankin Campus; and expanding the Raymond Campus across Highway 18  
49 to Seven Springs Road, where the Ted Kendall III Agricultural  
50 Complex is located; all of which fostered the opening of the Eagle  
51 Ridge Conference Center in 1996 after an increased demand for  
52 business and industry training; and

53 WHEREAS, honored over the course of his esteemed tenure by  
54 numerous distinguished groups, Dr. Muse's accolades include: the  
55 Association of Community College Trustees' Southern Region Chief  
56 Executive Officer Award; Governor Phil Bryant's inaugural  
57 Governor's Award for Excellence in State Government; the  
58 Mississippi Association of Partners in Education's prestigious  
59 Winter-Reed Partnership Award; being named Alumnus of the Year for  
60 East Central, Delta State and for Mississippi State University's  
61 College of Education; induction into the Mississippi Coaches Hall  
62 of Fame; recognitions by the Mississippi Legislature and Boy  
63 Scouts of America; and an approaching March 2020 induction into  
64 the Delta State University Sports Hall of Fame; and

65 WHEREAS, throughout every educational move and decision made,  
66 every vision and goal realized, Dr. Muse was favored by God to  
67 enjoy the love and support of his late wife of 58 years, Mrs.  
68 Vashti Muse, their three children, eight grandchildren and 13



69 great-grandchildren, each of whom encouraged and inspired him to  
70 scale the pinnacle of educational excellence; and

71 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to honor a  
72 giant of an individual of Dr. Muse's refined caliber, whose  
73 zealous commitment to the state's educational system from the  
74 cradle to the credential or degree has produced a storied legacy  
75 of greatness that will forever be the model of exceptional  
76 leadership in this state:

77 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
78 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
79 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the laudable career and  
80 distinguished service of Dr. Clyde Muse as president of Hinds  
81 Community College and congratulate him upon the occasion of his  
82 retirement on June 30, 2020, after 42 years of remarkable service,  
83 and extend best wishes of the Legislature for continued health and  
84 prosperity in his lighter years of life.

85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
86 furnished to Dr. Clyde Muse, the Board of Trustees of Hinds  
87 Community College and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

