

By: Representatives Gibbs (72nd), Banks,  
Bell (65th), Blackmon, Brown (70th), Clark,  
Clarke, Crudup, Holloway, Scott, Stamps,  
Summers, Watson, Yates

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 72

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ESTEEMED LEGAL AND  
2 JUDICIAL CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE TOMIE  
3 TURNER GREEN AND CONGRATULATING HER UPON THE OCCASION OF HER  
4 RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, after nearly 23 years of dedicated and zealous  
6 service as a barrister, arbiter and magistrate of the law, the  
7 Honorable Tomie Turner Green will retire her tribunal robe to the  
8 closet and silence her gavel of justice, after having first begun  
9 her prestigious career as a learned attorney and brilliant judge  
10 in 1999; and

11 WHEREAS, the oldest of four children born to David and Lizzie  
12 McPherson Turner, Judge Green was educated in the Jackson Public  
13 Schools, and after completing the 11th grade, she enrolled at  
14 Tougaloo College, where she earned her bachelor of arts degree,  
15 and continued her education at Jackson State University, where she  
16 earned a master of science degree, and finally, Mississippi  
17 College School of Law, where she earned her Doctor of  
18 Jurisprudence; and



19           WHEREAS, Judge Green continued to study law and practical  
20 application of the legal principles she had learned through  
21 post-doctorate training, including the study of advanced trial  
22 advocacy skills and techniques at the National Institute of Trial  
23 Advocacy and the National College of Advocacy, and in April 1999,  
24 she completed judicial certification at the National Judicial  
25 College at the University of Nevada at Reno; and

26           WHEREAS, before assuming her seat on the bench, Judge Green  
27 practiced law for 15 years and not only served as an adjunct law  
28 professor at the Mississippi College School of Law, where she  
29 taught law students procedures for successful litigation and trial  
30 court practice, but also as a partner in the law firm of Walker,  
31 Walker and Green of Jackson, Mississippi, as an Assistant District  
32 Attorney for Hinds and Yazoo Counties, and as a judicial clerk for  
33 U.S. District Court Judge Henry T. Wingate, the first federal  
34 judge in the State of Mississippi; and

35           WHEREAS, from 1992 until 1999, Judge Green served as a member  
36 of the Mississippi House of Representatives, where she was  
37 appointed as vice-chair of the Ethics Committee and as sub-chair  
38 of the Judiciary A Committee and also served on the Elections,  
39 Insurance, Managed Health Care, Local and Private Legislation,  
40 Constitution and Investigation of State Offices committees; and

41           WHEREAS, during her tenure in the Mississippi Legislature,  
42 Judge Green had a record of supporting efforts to bring honor and



43 efficiency to the judiciary, she wrote laws that created the  
44 Administrative Office of the Court, the Mississippi Court of  
45 Appeals and the Mississippi Torts Claim Board, and she promoted  
46 training, certification and increased benefits for court  
47 personnel, and her efforts to ensure diversity, fairness and  
48 justice in Mississippi's courts further substantiate her  
49 dedication, commitment and legacy of service to the community; and

50 WHEREAS, on January 4, 1999, Judge Green took the oath of  
51 office to become the first woman elected to the Hinds County  
52 Circuit bench, and after 10 years of dedicated service, she became  
53 Senior Circuit Court Judge of the Seventh Circuit Court District  
54 (Hinds County) of Mississippi, making her the first African  
55 American and the first woman to hold the position; and

56 WHEREAS, as a senior judge, Judge Green, who has remained  
57 unopposed at the ballot box for five consecutive terms, equipped  
58 all four circuit courtrooms with computer-integrated technology,  
59 worked with the Mississippi Supreme Court to create online  
60 electronic filing in the Hinds County circuit court, and initiated  
61 video/remote arraignment in the district, which allows  
62 communications with jail detainees through the Internet; and

63 WHEREAS, Judge Green has never avoided difficult or  
64 controversial cases and continues her efforts to increase  
65 accessibility, efficiency and public safety in the circuit court  
66 through the review of court rules, the increased monitoring of  
67 pretrial indictees, more timely indictment and disposition of



68 criminal cases, the expansion of the circuit drug court,  
69 development of veterans, mental health/behavioral health programs,  
70 increased judicial security on and off court premises, more  
71 timely disposition of civil matters through alternative dispute  
72 resolution, the broader use of digital and teleconferencing, and  
73 Internet streaming and/or closed circuit television for selected  
74 civil and criminal proceedings; and

75 WHEREAS, additionally, Judge Green has served two terms on  
76 the Supreme Court's Advisory Committee on Rules and has served on  
77 the Supreme Court's Committee on Media and the Courts, and on July  
78 1, 2003, media coverage in Mississippi's courtrooms became a  
79 reality when the first locally televised case in Mississippi  
80 originated in Judge Green's courtroom; and

81 WHEREAS, on November 10, 2003, Judge Green, along with Court  
82 TV and local ABC, NBC and CBS affiliates televised a multi-million  
83 dollar negligence case tried before the court and a Hinds County  
84 jury, marking the first time that Court TV or local networks had  
85 broadcasted full coverage of an entire trial in the State of  
86 Mississippi, and in November 2006, full media coverage of a second  
87 controversial criminal case was broadcasted from Judge Green's  
88 court by local networks and Court TV; and

89 WHEREAS, as a result of her academic excellence,  
90 professionalism, integrity, dedication and commitment to community  
91 service in her personal, political and professional life, Judge  
92 Green has received numerous honors and awards; and



93           WHEREAS, Judge Green is or has been a member of the Magnolia  
94 Bar Association, Mississippi Bar Association, the National Bar  
95 Association, the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar  
96 Association, the Hinds County Bar Association and the Phi Alpha  
97 Delta Legal Fraternity, and her prestigious memberships include  
98 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the  
99 NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the  
100 National Association of Black Legislators, Mississippi League of  
101 Women Voters, American Association of University Women and Central  
102 Mississippi Coalition of 100 Black Women, and she is currently a  
103 member of the St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church of Jackson,  
104 Mississippi; and

105           WHEREAS, throughout her career, Judge Green received  
106 unwavering support from her late husband, Cornelious, as well as  
107 her daughter, Dr. Nikisha Ware, who is married to Dr. David Ware,  
108 her son, Synarus Green, and her two grandsons, Solomon Ware and  
109 Asa Ware; and

110           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend the  
111 remarkable career and public service of such an equally  
112 remarkable, talented, fair and knowledgeable individual as Judge  
113 Tomie Turner Green, who has dedicated her life to promoting and  
114 upholding the pristine principals of justice and providing  
115 intellectual interpretation of the laws of the State of  
116 Mississippi to maximize the benefits and protection of its  
117 citizens:



118           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
119 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
120 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the esteemed legal and judicial  
121 career and public service of the Honorable Judge Tomie Turner  
122 Green, congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement and  
123 extend warmest wishes for continued success in all of her future  
124 endeavors.

125           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
126 furnished to the Honorable Judge Tomie Turner Green and to the  
127 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

