

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.

