

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

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 100

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

