

By: Senator(s) Chism, Suber, Boyd, Whaley,
Parks, Sparks, Barnett, Butler (38th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 543

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY OF THE
2 LEGISLATURE ON THE PASSING OF RESPECTED THIRD DISTRICT CIRCUIT
3 COURT JUDGE ROBERT KENNETH "KEN" COLEMAN OF NEW ALBANY,
4 MISSISSIPPI, AND CONDOLENCES TO HIS SURVIVING FAMILY.

5 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of Third
6 District Circuit Court Judge Robert Kenneth "Ken" Coleman of New
7 Albany, Mississippi, who passed away at the age of 85 on January
8 25, 2022; and

9 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman was born on September 8, 1936, in
10 Montpelier, Clay County, Mississippi, to Robert W. Coleman and
11 Maurine Anderson Coleman. He graduated from Okolona High School,
12 attended Itawamba Junior College, and received his Bachelor of
13 Business Administration Degree from the University of Mississippi
14 and his Juris Doctor Degree from the Cumberland School of Law at
15 Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama; and

16 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman served in the Mississippi Army
17 National Guard and Reserves, reaching the rank of Sergeant First
18 Class; and



19 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman served as City Attorney and Attorney
20 for Okolona Municipal Separate School District, was elected to the
21 Itawamba Junior College Hall of Fame, served as President of the
22 Mississippi Prosecutors Association, and was on the Board of
23 Directors of the National District Attorneys Association; and

24 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman was elected District Attorney of the
25 Third Circuit Court District, serving Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw,
26 Lafayette, Marshall, Tippah and Union Counties in 1975 and served
27 until appointed Circuit Court Judge of the Third Circuit Court
28 District in 1986 by Governor Bill Allain and served until retiring
29 as Senior Circuit Judge in 2002; and

30 WHEREAS, after retiring, he continued to serve throughout the
31 state as a Senior Status Circuit Judge by appointment of the
32 Supreme Court until 2016; and

33 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman was a devoted member of First Baptist
34 Church of New Albany, where he served as a Deacon, Sunday School
35 Teacher, and a Choir Member for many years; and

36 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife of 61 years, Patsy "Patty
37 Ann" McKee Coleman; daughter, Catherine Coleman McClinton
38 (Kelton); son, Robert W. Coleman II (Linda); grandchildren: Mark
39 Coleman McClinton (Kay), Mary Catherine Porter (Brian), Robert
40 Kenneth Coleman II (Molly), Laura Leigh Coleman, Marian Coleman
41 Griggs (Joey), William Stovall Coleman (Anna Kate), Richard McKee
42 Coleman and Virginia Ann Coleman; sister, Celia Coleman Fisher
43 (Harvey); and many nephews, nieces and cousins. He was preceded



44 in death by his parents; brother-in-law, Charles McKee (Ruth);
45 niece, Kay McKee Bishop; cousins, David Wiley Coleman and Colonel
46 Robert Stacey Coleman, Mississippi Army National Guard; and
47 great-nephew, Park Coleman Stevens; and

48 WHEREAS, Judge Coleman consistently lectured on professional
49 standards of the practice of law, including ethics, integrity,
50 civility, courtesy and adherence to the Golden Rule. Judge
51 Coleman's life honored both The Mississippi Bar and this great
52 state that he loved and served. He will be missed:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
54 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
55 we do hereby extend the deepest sympathy of the Legislature on the
56 passing of respected Third District Circuit Court Judge Robert
57 Kenneth "Ken" Coleman of New Albany, Mississippi, and condolences
58 to his surviving family.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
60 the surviving family of Judge Coleman, forwarded to the
61 Mississippi Supreme Court, and be made available to the Capitol
62 Press Corps.

