

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.

