

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Jackson (11th),  
Blount, Butler (36th), Butler (38th),  
Frazier, Thomas, Horhn, Simmons (12th),  
Simmons (13th), Barnett

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 31

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE JUDICIAL SERVICE OF HINDS COUNTY  
2 CHANCELLOR DENISE SWEET OWENS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT.

3 WHEREAS, we join the judicial community of Hinds County in  
4 recognizing the service of Chancellor Denise Sweet Owens who has  
5 announced that she is not seeking re-election; and

6 WHEREAS, Judge Denise Owens was elected in 1989 as Chancellor  
7 for Hinds County, Mississippi, and is presently Senior Judge; and

8 WHEREAS, a 1972 graduate of Tougaloo College and 1979  
9 graduate of George Washington University Law School, Judge Owens  
10 completed advanced studies at the American Business Court Judges  
11 Law and Economics Institute; and

12 WHEREAS, Judge Owens was an attorney with Legal Services from  
13 1979 to 1982, and from 1983 to 1986, was Partner and Managing  
14 Attorney for Owens & Owens Law Firm. She has also been an Adjunct  
15 Professor at Tougaloo, Hinds Community College and Jackson State  
16 University; and

17 WHEREAS, Judge Owens is Past Secretary, Vice Chair and  
18 Chairperson of the Mississippi Conference of Chancery Judges. She



19 is a member of The Mississippi Bar; the Mississippi Bar  
20 Foundation; the National Association of Women Judges; and the  
21 Magnolia Bar; and

22 WHEREAS, Judge Owens was appointed as Co-Chairperson of the  
23 Mississippi Access to Justice Commission. She is a member of the  
24 American Bar and the National Bar. She was the recipient of the  
25 2010 Chief Justice Award from the Mississippi Supreme Court, 2009  
26 Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Pioneer Award, The 2010 Tougaloo  
27 College Meritorious Leadership Award, 2006 Hinds County Bar  
28 Judicial Innovation Award, 2003 Mississippi Bar Fellow and the  
29 2002 Magnolia Bar Government Service Award; and

30 WHEREAS, Judge Owens served as a leader and mentor. Her  
31 tenure honored both The Mississippi Bar and this Great State:

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
33 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize the Judicial Service of  
34 Hinds County Chancellor Denise Sweet Owens on the occasion of her  
35 retirement and extend the best wishes of the Senate for her future  
36 professional success.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
38 Judge Owens and her family, forwarded to the Hinds County Bar  
39 Association and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

