

By: Senator(s) Horhn, Butler (38th),
Frazier, Jackson (11th), Norwood, Simmons
(12th)

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 56

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, LEGACY AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
2 MRS. RUTH ANTOINETTE BATTON CAMPBELL AND EXPRESSING SINCEREST
3 SYMPATHY UPON HER PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi lost an unsung heroine,
5 wonderful friend, revered educator and media personality with the
6 passing of Mrs. Ruth Antoinette Batton Campbell on April 1, 2020.
7 A native of Benton, Mississippi, Mrs. Campbell was born on June
8 30, 1939, to her late parents, Viola Brice and Cleophas Batton.
9 She earned an Associate's Degree from Coahoma Junior College in
10 Clarksdale, Mississippi, in 1959, and in 1961, she attained her
11 Bachelor's Degree in Language Arts from Jackson State College.
12 Mrs. Campbell furthered her education by earning a Master's Degree
13 in 1970 from the University of Southern Mississippi. She utilized
14 her degrees to master the English and French languages, public
15 speaking and literature, and imparted all of her acquired
16 knowledge into the impressionable minds of young people as a
17 public school teacher; and



18 WHEREAS, Mrs. Campbell made contributions as a Market Analyst
19 with the Mississippi Research and Development Center, and she
20 later entered the field of broadcasting at the Mississippi
21 Authority for Educational Television, where she made her indelible
22 mark as host of the longest-running minority-oriented public
23 affairs series in the Magnolia State, and served as the Executive
24 Producer for all public affairs programming at the network; and

25 WHEREAS, Mrs. Campbell also served as a Special Assistant to
26 Governor Ray Mabus, served as the Associate Director at the
27 Jackson State University Lifelong Learning Center, and completed
28 her dynamic career as the Deputy Director for the City of
29 Jackson's Department of Human and Cultural Services; and

30 WHEREAS, Mrs. Campbell evidenced her faith in Christ through
31 her diligent works at Pearl Street African Methodist Episcopal
32 Church, where she served in numerous capacities, and which
33 acknowledged her service with the presentation of the
34 Distinguished Leadership Award; and

35 WHEREAS, Mrs. Campbell received awards in recognition of her
36 community service and giving spirit, including: Humanitarian
37 Award from the University of Southern Mississippi, Presidential
38 Citation for Alumni of the Year Award from the University of
39 Southern Mississippi and a Founders Award from the National Black
40 Programming Consortium; and

41 WHEREAS, Mrs. Campbell made impactful contributions as the
42 Chair of the National Black Programming Consortium, member of the



43 Advisory Board for Catholic Charities, member of the Advisory
44 Council for 21st Century Community Learning Center, and was a
45 pioneer in her own right as a founding member of the National
46 Coalition of 100 Black Women in Jackson, as well as Friends of
47 Public Broadcasting; and

48 WHEREAS, the memories of Mrs. Campbell will continue to
49 flourish in the hearts and minds of her survivors, some of whom
50 include: her devoted husband, Leon; children, Kimberly, Sheva and
51 Cord; and her doting grandchildren, Sage, Brelan, Iliya, Cord and
52 Carrie Antoinette; and

53 WHEREAS, we pay tribute and cherish fondly the memory of a
54 most public-spirited Mississippi citizen:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the life, legacy and
57 contributions of Mrs. Ruth Antoinette Batton Campbell and express
58 deepest sympathy upon her passing to her family and friends.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to
60 the family of Mrs. Ruth Antoinette Batton Campbell and made
61 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

