

By: Senator(s) DeLano, Butler (38th),
Frazier, Horhn, Michel

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 61

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF MS.
2 MICHELE T. BLOCKER TO THE CITIZENS OF MISSISSIPPI ON THE OCCASION
3 OF HER RETIREMENT AS CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE
4 MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ITS).

5 WHEREAS, we join the ITS professional community and the
6 citizens of Mississippi in recognizing 30 years of expert and
7 effective service by Ms. Michele Blocker; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Blocker graduated from Mississippi State
9 University with a degree in Banking and Finance. She has served
10 in nine positions at ITS spanning from telecommunications,
11 procurement, and internal services and currently serves as the ITS
12 Chief Administrative Officer. During her 29-year career with ITS,
13 Ms. Blocker has served as a trusted advisor to three Executive
14 Directors and multiple ITS board members over the years, and her
15 knowledge and insight have been invaluable to the ITS leadership;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Blocker, a leader, advisor, mentor and friend to
18 many will retire as the Chief Administrative Officer of the
19 Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services on April



20 30, 2022. She has provided outstanding service to ITS since
21 December of 1992; and

22 WHEREAS, Ms. Blocker's 30 years of unbroken public service
23 are a clear commitment to the State of Mississippi and her
24 citizens. Ms. Blocker's impact spans across ITS staff, state
25 agencies, universities, local government, Legislators, and
26 state-elected officials. She has been a lifelong advocate for
27 building the State of Mississippi's workforce through efforts to
28 improve recruitment, staff development and the state's ability to
29 develop and maintain quality personnel in state government; and

30 WHEREAS, she played a key role in developing a program for
31 state government to employ information technology students in an
32 effort to build relationships with state universities and provide
33 a career path for students. Ms. Blocker's efforts to collaborate
34 on and improve information technology job classifications
35 contributed to the original development and implementation of the
36 Information Technology Classifications Special Compensation Plan,
37 IT Career Path chart and the Information Technology Professional
38 Development Committee (ITPDC), all of which were used in state
39 government for over 20 years. Ms. Blocker continues to serve as a
40 subject-matter expert on information technology classifications,
41 and she is often consulted by other state agencies; and

42 WHEREAS, under her leadership as ITS Interim Executive
43 Director, she accepted a National Award on behalf of Mississippi



44 for the "Best Overall State Government Experience" which is the
45 highest honor presented by the Center for Digital Government; and

46 WHEREAS, Ms. Blocker has been the consistent face
47 representing ITS at the State Capitol for the past decade. Her
48 integrity and reputation precede her and have built trusted
49 relationships within Mississippi State Government. All of these
50 efforts have resulted in unquantifiable benefits for the taxpayers
51 of Mississippi; and

52 WHEREAS, Ms. Blocker has spent many hours personally
53 mentoring and developing countless state employees who respect her
54 as a professional and also consider her a friend. Her character
55 and reputation precede her whether she is at the Capitol working
56 with Legislators and other elected officials, interacting with
57 state agencies, or working internally with ITS staff; and it is
58 with great pride that we recognize this record of achievement and
59 legacy of leadership:

60 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
61 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the distinguished service
62 of Michele T. Blocker to the Citizens of Mississippi on the
63 occasion of her retirement as Chief Administrative Officer of the
64 Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS)
65 and extend to Ms. Blocker the best wishes of the Mississippi
66 Senate on this auspicious occasion.



67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
68 Michele Blocker, forwarded to the State Board for ITS, and made
69 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

