

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Frazier, Jackson,
Jordan, Butler (38th), Simmons (12th),
Blount, Thomas, Turner-Ford, Butler (36th),
Barnett, Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 51

1 A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE MISSISSIPPI
2 SENATE TO THE SURVIVING FAMILY OF JACKSON MINORITY BUSINESS
3 PIONEER ROY L. DIXON, SR., WHO FOUNDED "DIXON'S FRIED PORK SKIN
4 SHOP".

5 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of
6 Jackson, Mississippi, businessman and community leader Roy L.
7 Dixon, Sr., on February 18, 2023; and

8 WHEREAS, Roy L. Dixon, Sr., was born on October 17, 1942, in
9 Georgetown, Mississippi, to Sebie Dixon and Louisa Mallard Dixon;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Dixon's son, Barry, said his father started the
12 company bearing his name in 1974, selling fried pork skins, a
13 favorite for many people in Mississippi and around the South. The
14 skins are still sold at stores around Mississippi, and the package
15 still bears Dixon's name, even though it merged with another
16 company, Central Snack. Ten years later, the business grew from
17 three to 24 employees and from a one-town operation to a business
18 serving six states: Mississippi, Louisiana, Illinois, Texas,
19 Tennessee and Missouri, according to a *Clarion-Ledger* profile; and



20 WHEREAS, in 1984, Dixon was named Mississippi "Small Business
21 Person of the Year" by the Small Business Association and
22 "Manufacturer of the Year" by the Jackson Minority Business
23 Development Center; and

24 WHEREAS, Roy Dixon's family remembers the "Skin Man" as a
25 barrier-breaking Mississippi businessman. His son says Dixon was
26 one of the first African Americans to have a product manufactured
27 and sold in stores across the state: those now-famous fried pork
28 skins. His father first started selling skins he brought from
29 Jackson to his record shop in Crystal Springs, and as time went
30 on, he realized people were buying more skins than records. Soon
31 he understood that the skin business could be something really
32 profitable; and

33 WHEREAS, Dixon quickly outgrew the first location at his West
34 Jackson home in the early 1970s. State Representative De'Keither
35 Stamps stated "This is a true American icon with the track record
36 and the self-determination that he put in place"; and

37 WHEREAS, Dixon's family reflects on Roy's long life and what
38 really matters. His legacy will be one who really loved his
39 family and his community, and a person who really loved God; and

40 WHEREAS, we fondly remember the legacy of Roy Dixon who was a
41 most public-spirited citizen of Mississippi who will be missed:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
43 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby extend the condolences of the
44 Mississippi Senate to the surviving family of Jackson minority



45 business pioneer Roy L. Dixon, Sr., who founded "Dixon's Fried
46 Pork Skin Shop", and remember his legacy as a leading minority
47 businessman in Central Mississippi.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
49 the surviving family of Roy Dixon, Sr., forwarded to the Jackson
50 Minority Business Development Center and made available to the
51 Capitol Press Corps.

