

By: Senator(s) Horhn, Butler (36th), Butler (38th), Frazier, Hickman, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th), Norwood, Jackson, Barnett, Turner-Ford, Jordan, Thomas, Blackmon To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
2 ESTABLISHMENT OF JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF
3 POLITICAL SCIENCE.

4 WHEREAS, Jackson State University's (JSU) Department of
5 Political Science (PS) was founded in June 1972 to offer rigorous
6 study in black and comparative politics, American institutions,
7 international relations, empirical theory, law and society, and
8 public administration; and

9 WHEREAS, the department's faculty and curricula imparts
10 skills, knowledge, and civics acumen to 1,512 Political Science
11 and pre-law students from Mississippi and across the globe,
12 including 15 foreign nations; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Leslie-Burl McLemore of Walls, Mississippi, in
14 Desoto County was the founding chair; and

15 WHEREAS, the department's founding faculty included:
16 Leslie-Burl McLemore, Pius Eze, Taunya L. Banks, Ally Mack, George
17 Mitchell, Michael Zifcak, James Harvey and West Lindsay; and



18 WHEREAS, Charles Henry Holmes, Mary Coleman, the late Eugene
19 McLemore and Isaiah Madison, Rhonda Cooper, Michelle Deardorff,
20 and Charles Irvin were pre-law advisors and faculty mentors to
21 hundreds of students who are now successful and productive
22 practitioners; and

23 WHEREAS, throughout the state and nation, many of the
24 department's graduates are distinguished professors and elected
25 officials; ministers, judges, servant leaders, nonprofit leaders,
26 national security professionals, statisticians, and data
27 evaluation specialists, such as Len Jefferson, Nancy Fortenberry,
28 and Jennifer Shorter; and

29 WHEREAS, the department's graduates include 310 attorneys,
30 among them Federal Judge Carlton Reeves, U.S. Attorney Felicia
31 Adams, and Harvard Professor of Practice, Cornell William Brooks;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, the department's graduates include dozens of PhDs
34 from the nation's best universities, accomplished professors,
35 authors, and transformational local and national leaders of
36 nonprofit organizations such as Laphonza Butler, CEO of Emily's
37 List; and Brenda Hyde of Southern Echo; and

38 WHEREAS, Political Science students are Truman Scholar
39 finalists, engaged community activists, and among the highest
40 award winners, honor society recipients, and admitted graduate
41 school applicants; and



42 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
43 principled public servants who are JSU Political Science graduates
44 for their contributions to our state, nation and our world:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
46 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize the 50th Anniversary of
47 the establishment of Jackson State University's Department of
48 Political Science, and acknowledge the compassionate mentorship of
49 all Political Science faculty to students from all backgrounds and
50 extend our appreciation to the administration of Jackson State
51 University for the exemplary productivity of the Department of
52 Political Science.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we do hereby commend Dr.
54 Leslie-Burl McLemore for his founding vision and its bold
55 implementation and the establishment of the Fannie Lou Hamer
56 Institute for Democracy, and Hamer and Isaiah Madison endowed
57 scholarship funds; commend Dr. Ally Mack for her stewardship of
58 Black Elected Officials in Mississippi and the decades-long
59 leadership of Drs. Mack and Mary Coleman to the Mississippi
60 Consortium for International Development; and congratulate Drs.
61 Curtina Moreland-Young, Ricky Hill, and D'Andra Orey for their
62 continuous mentorship of Political Science students entering and
63 succeeding in PhD, MA and MPPA programs in Mississippi and across
64 the nation.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
66 the administration and faculty of the Department of Political



67 Science of Jackson State University, forwarded to the Board of
68 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, and be made
69 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

