

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.

