

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Frazier, DeBar,
Parker, Michel, Butler (38th), Blackwell,
England

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 108

1 A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND RECOGNIZE DISTRICT 21 STATE
2 SENATOR BARBARA BLACKMON FOR HER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE IN THE
3 MISSISSIPPI SENATE.

4 WHEREAS, District 21 State Senator Barbara Blackmon has
5 announced that she will not be seeking reelection to the
6 Mississippi Senate. She has represented Senate District 21, which
7 includes portions of Attala, Holmes, Leake, Madison and Yazoo
8 Counties, since 2016. She previously served in the Mississippi
9 Senate from 1992 to 2004, and again from 2016 to 2023. In Barbara
10 Blackmon, the citizens of District 21 have had effective
11 representation from a dedicated public servant with extensive
12 experience in the practice of law; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon is proud of her accomplishments in
14 the Legislature, and said she has always enjoyed working in the
15 Senate; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon graduated from Jackson State
17 University, B.S. Business Administration; University of Alabama



18 M.B.A.; University of Mississippi, Juris Doctorate; and New York
19 University, L.L.M. (Taxation); and

20 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon is an attorney and is a member of
21 The Mississippi State Bar, New York State Bar, Magnolia Bar
22 Association and Life Member of the NAACP; and

23 WHEREAS, as a State Senator, Senator Blackmon worked to
24 increase funding for all of Mississippi's state colleges and
25 universities. She supported the Mississippi Adequate Education
26 Program to provide equity to poorer school districts and was a
27 champion for senior citizens and children by being a strong and
28 effective voice for sound health care policies. Lieutenant
29 Governor Eddie Briggs recognized Barbara's vast business and legal
30 capacity and because of her significant business background,
31 Senator Blackmon was appointed to the Senate Finance Committee
32 where as a new Senator she was appointed Vice Chair where she
33 advocated for more economic development in the poorer areas of the
34 state as well as record construction investments at Mississippi's
35 universities and junior colleges. Lieutenant Governor Eddie
36 Briggs, also appointed Barbara to the Legislative Budget
37 Committee, and she was the first female ever appointed to the
38 committee from the State Senate. The committee sets the state's
39 budget prior to the Legislature convening. Barbara Blackmon was
40 the first African American in the Senate to be appointed to a
41 subcommittee chair on the Appropriations Committee where she
42 oversaw over \$350 Million in agency budgets; and



43 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon served as President of the National
44 Black Caucus of States Institute, a public policy think tank which
45 developed parallel to the National Black Caucus of State
46 Legislators from 2002-2010. She is a former Co-Chair of the
47 National Campaign for Jackson State University's \$50 Million
48 Campaign for scholarships, endowments and programs and served on
49 the Board of Directors for the Jackson State University
50 Foundation. She served on the Steering Committee for the B.B.
51 King Museum in Indianola, Mississippi. She has served on the
52 Board of Directors of the United Way of the Capitol Area, the Boys
53 and Girls Club of Central Mississippi, the Stewpot of Canton, the
54 American Red Cross Central Mississippi Chapter and as President of
55 the Foundation for Education and Economic Development among other
56 community and professional associations. Barbara and her husband,
57 Representative Edward Blackmon, Jr., received an award for Black
58 Philanthropy for having given \$1,000,000.00 to Tougaloo College,
59 \$750,000.00 to Jackson State University, and providing
60 scholarships and awards to 53 students; and

61 WHEREAS, at the beginning of the 2023 Regular Session,
62 Senator Blackmon served on the following committees: Housing,
63 Chair; Highways and Transportation, Vice-Chair; Finance;
64 Insurance; Judiciary, Division A; Local and Private; Medicaid; and
65 Public Health and Welfare; and



66 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon is married to Edward Blackmon, Jr.
67 They have two sons, Madison Edward Blackmon and Bradford Jerome
68 Blackmon; and

69 WHEREAS, Senator Blackmon's service has been marked by her
70 commitment to success and recognized leadership, sound judgment,
71 civility, courtesy and fairness. She has set the highest standard
72 in all of her many roles: wife, mother, attorney, radio
73 communicator, statesman, community leader and leader in the
74 Mississippi Senate. Senator Blackmon's service honored both the
75 Mississippi Senate and this great state that she loves and serves:

76 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
77 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and recognize District 21
78 State Senator Barbara Blackmon for her distinguished service in
79 the Mississippi Senate.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
81 Senator Barbara Blackmon and made available to the Capitol Press
82 Corps.

