

By: Representatives Banks, Summers

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER  
2 AND MERITORIOUS LEADERSHIP OF MS. PAMELA D.C. JUNIOR UPON THE  
3 OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE TWO MISSISSIPPI  
4 MUSEUMS.

5 WHEREAS, Pamela D.C. Junior retired as the director of the  
6 Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson on June 30, 2023, after  
7 selflessly dedicating three years of illustrious service and  
8 competent guidance to the wonderful people of the State of  
9 Mississippi and others who visited the museum; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2017, Ms. Junior was named the inaugural director  
11 of the first state-sponsored civil rights museum in the nation,  
12 the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, and she came to the role  
13 after serving as director of the Smith Robertson Museum and  
14 Cultural Center for seventeen years; and

15 WHEREAS, Ms. Junior was promoted to director of the Two  
16 Mississippi Museums in 2019, where she continued the work of  
17 sharing the stories of Mississippi told in the Museum of  
18 Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum; and



19 WHEREAS, before she became director, Ms. Junior graduated  
20 from Jackson State University with a bachelor of science degree in  
21 education and a minor in special education, and she joined the  
22 National Park Service in 1990 as a ranger in Washington, D.C.; and  
23 nearly a decade later, she returned to Jackson to work for the  
24 city's Parks and Recreation Department; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1999, Ms. Junior was hired as the manager of the  
26 Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, where she became  
27 co-coordinator of the National Arts Program and acquired on  
28 permanent loan the Smithsonian traveling exhibition Field to  
29 Factory: The Afro-American Migration, 1915-1940; and

30 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
31 (MDAH) director Katie Blount said, "Pam Junior came to MDAH with  
32 deep roots and credibility in the community, many years of  
33 experience in the museum field, and a commitment to excellence  
34 that she modeled for younger staff. She personally led many  
35 thousands of visitors through the museums, enriching their  
36 experience through her passion for history and her boundless  
37 charisma. In our first years, Pam Junior lifted-up the Two  
38 Mississippi Museums and shared them with the world. We are  
39 grateful."; and

40 WHEREAS, throughout her career, Ms. Junior experienced  
41 numerous career highlights, but some of her more remarkable  
42 included participating in the retirement of the 1894 Mississippi  
43 state flag at the official retirement ceremony in 2020, guiding



44 the late Congressman John Lewis through the Mississippi Civil  
45 Rights Museum, and spearheading Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
46 programming with fellow museum staff in 2018, and adding the  
47 Martin Luther King Night of Culture in 2019, just two of the  
48 highly attended annual events at the museums; and

49 WHEREAS, civil rights leader Myrlie Evers said Ms. Junior "is  
50 a woman who knows that she did not travel her road alone, but on  
51 the shoulders of those who came before her", and "is imbued with  
52 the fortitude, wisdom, and faith of her grandmother, mother,  
53 mentors, and civil rights veterans", and "her leadership reflects  
54 her commitment to Mississippi and the honest telling of our  
55 history"; and

56 WHEREAS, Ms. Junior has been honored over the years for both  
57 her professional and community work and received numerous awards,  
58 such as the Freedom Rider Award from the Mississippi Freedom 50th  
59 Foundation, the For My People Award from the Margaret Walker  
60 Center at Jackson State University, the Hometown Hero Award from  
61 the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Museum  
62 Leadership Award by the Association of African American Museums,  
63 and she was inducted into the Mississippi Tourism Hall of Fame;  
64 and

65 WHEREAS, after her retirement, Ms. Junior continues to serve  
66 the community as a board member for Visit Jackson and an advisory  
67 board member for the Mississippi Book Festival, and she is also a  
68 member of the International Women's Forum; and



69           WHEREAS, during her career, Ms. Junior was an exemplary and  
70 dedicated employee to the State of Mississippi and specifically as  
71 Director of the Two Mississippi Museums, and her knowledge, skill  
72 and strenuous laboriousness will be dearly missed by all of her  
73 colleagues and others who were lucky enough to have the  
74 opportunity to work with her and experience her greatness; and

75           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
76 and commend the tireless devotion to the betterment of Mississippi  
77 and honor the ardent vow to impeccable service that Ms. Pamela  
78 D.C. Junior provided as the Director of the Two Mississippi  
79 Museums:

80           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
81 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
82 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the distinguished career and  
83 meritorious leadership of Ms. Pamela D.C. Junior upon the occasion  
84 of her retirement as the Director of the Two Mississippi Museums  
85 and extend to her our most sincere wishes for continued success  
86 and joy in the lighter days ahead.

87           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
88 furnished to Ms. Pamela D.C. Junior and to the members of the  
89 Capitol Press Corps.

