

By: Senator(s) Michel, Blackwell, Boyd,  
Chassaniol, England, Fillingane, Frazier,  
Hopson, Suber, Kirby, Sparks

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMENDING THE LIFE OF  
2 PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY  
3 AND TO THE CHARITABLE SUPPORT OF THE FIRE MUSEUM OF MEMPHIS BY THE  
4 HONORABLE JIM COX OF OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXTENDING THE  
5 CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE TO HIS SURVIVING FAMILY.

6 WHEREAS, James Thomason (Jim) Cox passed away at 78 on June  
7 10, 2023. Jim was born in Memphis, Tennessee, June 23, 1944, to  
8 T.M. and Lucile Helton Cox. He was a 1962 graduate of Whitehaven  
9 High School and held degrees from the University of Mississippi  
10 (B.S.) and Memphis State University (J.D.); and

11 WHEREAS, Jim always enjoyed working, beginning at age 14 in a  
12 fire station, which became a lifelong avocation. A brilliant  
13 lawyer, he had a long and successful career in healthcare law,  
14 including serving as an Arbitration Judge; and

15 WHEREAS, a man of honesty, forthrightness and sound judgment,  
16 Jim made many friends in legal circles, including members of the  
17 Mississippi Legislature, where he was a highly touted and erudite  
18 lobbyist, the State of Mississippi Departments of Health and  
19 Mental Health; and



20           WHEREAS, Jim was a passionate supporter of the Fire Museum of  
21 Memphis whose mission is to promote fire education and life  
22 safety, reduce injury, life-loss and property-loss related to fire  
23 and to recognize and preserve the heritage of the fire service in  
24 Memphis and Mississippi and its contribution to the community; and

25           WHEREAS, Jim was particularly dedicated to restoring fire  
26 trucks. Restoring his beloved pumper trucks involved considerable  
27 effort, from custom-cutting stainless steel, to disassembling and  
28 replating chrome, to replacing various wood parts and painting and  
29 gold leafing. Today his vintage fire trucks stand on display at  
30 the Fire Museum of Memphis located at 118 Adams Street in one of  
31 the city's original firehouses. On display at the museum, Jim's  
32 firetrucks look out at the streets of the city where Jim worked  
33 and served with dedication; and

34           WHEREAS, Jim loved his Ole Miss Rebels, New Orleans and the  
35 Gulf Coast, and dachshunds. He will long be remembered as a fine  
36 Southern gentleman with a heart of gold; and

37           WHEREAS, Jim is survived by his stepdaughter, Cori Egan  
38 (Brendan); grandchildren, Charlie, Paul and Maggie; lifelong best  
39 friend, Warren Wiltshire; special friend, Rachel West. Jim leaves  
40 a great number of friends around the state and nation who  
41 respected him and found great joy in their friendship and  
42 fellowship with him; and

43           WHEREAS, it is with pride that we remember this individual  
44 who devoted himself to the administration of justice over the span



45 of his professional career, contributing significantly to the  
46 legal and legislative process and bringing honor to the State of  
47 Mississippi:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
49 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commend the life  
50 of public service to the legal profession and legislative advocacy  
51 and to the charitable support of the Fire Museum of Memphis by the  
52 Honorable Jim Cox of Oxford, Mississippi, and extend the  
53 condolences of the Senate to his surviving family.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
55 the surviving family of Jim Cox and be made available to the  
56 Capitol Press Corps.  
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