

By: Senator(s) Johnson, Barnett, Barrett, Berry, Blackmon, Blackwell, Blount, Boyd, Branning, Brumfield, Bryan, Butler, Carter, Chassaniol, Chism, DeBar, DeLano, England, Fillingane, Frazier, Harkins, Hickman, Hill, Hopson, Horhn, Jackson, Jordan, Kirby, Ladner, McCaughn, McLendon, McMahan, Michel, Norwood, Parker, Parks, Polk, Rhodes, Seymour, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th), Sparks, Suber, Tate, Thomas, Thompson, Turner-Ford, Whaley, Wiggins, Williams, Younger

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 34

1 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE LEGACY AND MEMORY OF FORMER
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER-SOUTHERN DISTRICT SAMUEL F. (SAM)
3 BRITTON AND EXTENDING THE SYMPATHY OF THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE TO
4 HIS SURVIVING FAMILY.

5 WHEREAS, we join the family and friends of former Mississippi
6 Public Service Commissioner-Southern District Samuel F. (Sam)
7 Britton of Laurel, Mississippi, who departed this life on October
8 16, 2023; and

9 WHEREAS, Sam Britton was born on July 30, 1956, and grew up
10 in Waynesboro, Mississippi. His mother, Sytilee Britton, worked
11 in the school lunch room and drove a school bus. His father,
12 Ellis Britton, Sr., worked in the oil industry as a roughneck; and

13 WHEREAS, Sam graduated from Jones County Junior College
14 before attending The University of Southern Mississippi where he
15 completed his business degree. After completing college, he
16 worked at his uncle's pipeline construction business. In the
17 early 1980s, he returned to The University of Southern Mississippi



18 and earned a degree in accounting. Sam then completed the
19 requirements to become a CPA; and

20 WHEREAS, after college, Sam worked in the State Auditor and
21 State Tax Commission offices before starting his own accounting
22 firm. He then shifted into investment banking. He was recognized
23 in 2014 as a "Mississippi Leader in Finance" by the *Mississippi*
24 *Business Journal*; and

25 WHEREAS, Sam was elected to the Mississippi Public Service
26 Commission for the Southern District as a Republican. In November
27 2015, he won with over 60% of the vote defeating Democratic
28 candidate Tom Blanton and Reform candidate Lonny Spence; and

29 WHEREAS, in college in the fall of 1974, Sam met his wife,
30 Robin Robinson. His wife is the former State Representative for
31 the 88th District and is now the State Senator for the 42nd
32 District, assuming office in 2024; and

33 WHEREAS, Sam understood the ideals of community, of faith and
34 of service because they defined his life. Sam was an active
35 member of First United Methodist Church of Laurel and served as a
36 Lay Servant and as Chairman of the Church Council; and

37 WHEREAS, he completed several marathons, including the Marine
38 Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., the New York City Marathon and
39 the San Francisco Marathon, which he completed on his 50th
40 birthday; and



41 WHEREAS, as a Public Service Commissioner, Sam's number one
42 goal was to be fair and transparent and protect the ratepayers.
43 He was successful in these efforts; and

44 WHEREAS, Sam is survived by his loving wife, Robin Robinson,
45 sister, Katherine Britton Barker; brothers, Ellis C. Britton, Jr.,
46 Fred Britton and Eulon Britton, and a host of nieces, nephews,
47 great nieces and great nephews; and

48 WHEREAS, Sam impacted so many people in his 67 years through
49 his Christian testimony, financial knowledge, political office and
50 his smile that lit up a room; and

51 WHEREAS, in mourning the loss of this dedicated public
52 servant, we recognize that his passing will never diminish the
53 profound impact he made in the lives of his family, his
54 colleagues, his community and the State of Mississippi:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby celebrate the legacy and memory of
57 former Public Service Commissioner-Southern District Samuel F.
58 (Sam) Britton and extend the sympathy of the Mississippi Senate to
59 his surviving family.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
61 Senator Robin Robinson, forwarded to the Mississippi Public
62 Service Commission and be made available to the Capitol Press
63 Corps.

