

By: Senator(s) Hewes

To: Rules

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MONSIGNOR JOSEPH  
2 CLEMENT MERCIER OF GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
3 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD.

4 WHEREAS, Monsignor Joseph Clement Mercier, 78, a native of  
5 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was ordained at the Church of Twelve  
6 Apostles in Rome for the Diocese of Natchez on July 17, 1955; and

7 WHEREAS, after his ordination for the Diocese of  
8 Natchez-Jackson, Monsignor Mercier's dedicated career and  
9 appointments are a matter of record: Date of Arrival in Diocese,  
10 July 17, 1956; July 28, 1956, Assistant, St. Mary, Jackson;  
11 November 17, 1956, Assistant, Nativity BVM, Biloxi; September 2,  
12 1957, Assistant, St. John, Gulfport; September 8, 1962, Assistant,  
13 Sacred Heart Church, Hattiesburg, and Chaplain to Newman Club at  
14 University of Southern Mississippi; September 1, 1964, Pastor,  
15 Christ the King Church, Jackson; June 5, 1967, Pastor, Holy Family  
16 Parish, Jackson; February 1, 1968, Member of Diocesan Liturgical  
17 Commission; August 1, 1970, Pastor, Sacred Heart, Pascagoula; June  
18 13, 1977, Appointed to Board of Consultors for Diocese of Biloxi;  
19 November 29, 1977, Appointed as Synodal Examiner and Parish Priest  
20 Consultor; January 23, 1978, Appointed Pastor, St. John the  
21 Evangelist, Gulfport; January 24, 1978, Appointed Dean of Central  
22 Coast Deanery; February 3, 1978, Appointed Pastor of St. John the  
23 Evangelist Parish, Gulfport; July 13, 1978, Elected as Member of  
24 the Clergy Council; August 1, 1978, Elected to Clergy Council of  
25 Diocese; August 1, 1978, Appointed Dean of West Central Coast  
26 Deanery; August 1, 1978, Appointed to Board of Consultors;  
27 November 20, 1984, Granted three-year extension as Pastor of St.

28 John the Evangelist, Gulfport; June 1, 1986, Appointed Pastor,  
29 Sacred Heart, Dedeaux and Diocesan Priest Director of the Cursillo  
30 Movement and Priest Director of Diocesan Lay Retreats; September  
31 1, 1992, Granted three-year extension as Pastor, Sacred Heart,  
32 Dedeaux; June 6, 1995, Granted three-year extension as Pastor,  
33 Sacred Heart, Dedeaux; January 20, 2001, Administrator Pro-Tem of  
34 St. Ann Parish, Gulfport until May 30, 2001; and

35 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the vital,  
36 outstanding service of Monsignor Joseph Clement Mercier of  
37 Gulfport, Mississippi, who has ministered to the needs of his  
38 parish, his community and his state:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
40 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Monsignor  
41 Joseph Clement Mercier of Gulfport, Mississippi, on his 50th  
42 Anniversary of Ordination to Priesthood, and extend to him the  
43 best wishes of the Senate on this auspicious occasion.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
45 Monsignor Mercier and be made available to the Capitol Press  
46 Corps.