MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2011

By: Representatives Baker (74th), Rogers (61st), Moore, McGee, Weathersby, Blackmon, Buck (72nd), Coleman (65th), Denny, Gunn, Martinson, Gipson, Wooten, Malone, Smith (27th), Formby, Bounds

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ESTEEMED LEGAL AND JUDICIAL CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE JUDGE SAMAC S. RICHARDSON RENDERED TO THE CITIZENS OF CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC SERVICE.

WHEREAS, after 35 years of dedicated and zealous service as a barrister, arbiter and magistrate of the law, The Honorable Judge Samac S. Richardson will retire his tribunal robe to the closet and silence his gavel of justice, after having first begun his prestigious career as a learned attorney and brilliant judge in 1975; and

WHEREAS, originally from Neshoba County, Mississippi, Judge Richardson received a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Mississippi State University in 1970 before attending The Jackson School of Law where he served on the Honor Council and he received his Juris Doctorate degree in 1975; and

WHEREAS, equally committed to the service and protected liberties of this state and nation, he served as a tank gunner in Company A, 198th Armor, 31st Dixie Division and as company clerk in the 367th Heavy Equipment Maintenance Company, Mississippi National Guard before being honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant E-5 in July 1973; and

WHEREAS, a 1993 graduate of The National Judicial College, Judge Richardson, who had always demonstrated himself to be a driven and hardworking individual, was employed by the University of Mississippi Medical Center as project administrator for Family Planning and Nurse Midwifery and by Central Mississippi Planning

and Development District as fiscal officer while attending law school; and

WHEREAS, having gained the respect of his peers and colleagues as both a client's advocate and judicial officer, his ethical morale, character and rapport precedes him in the legal and civic communities, as evidenced by his lengthy list of accomplishments, accolades, recognitions and positions, including: currently serving his 13th year as Senior Circuit Judge of the 20th Circuit Court District, comprised of Madison and Rankin Counties (1997 to present); having served as Vice Chair and Chair of Conference of Circuit Judges (2003-2006); County Court Judge for Rankin County (1993-1997); Chair of Conference of County Court Judges (1996-1997); Presiding Judge for the Mississippi Supreme Court Complaints Tribunal (1994-2001); member of the Board of Court Reporter Certification (1998-1999); member and former Commissioner of the Mississippi Bar Association; member of the Madison and Rankin County Bar Associations; member of the board for the Sobriety Trained Officers Representing Mississippi (STORM); member of the Mississippi Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules (2002-2003); and a 2009 ASTAR Science and Technology Fellow; and

WHEREAS, a private law practitioner for eight years, Judge Richardson began his extended career in public service as Assistant District Attorney - 20th Circuit Court District (1982-1988), which afforded him the opportunity to avail himself to serve as City Attorney for the City of Pearl, Mississippi, (1989-1993), Special Master in the Rankin County Chancery Court, Public Defender for Rankin County and City of Brandon, Mississippi, (1988-1993), and Hearing Officer for the Rankin County School Board (1988-1993); and

WHEREAS, while comfortable in his legal shoes, Judge Richardson used his broadened knowledge base of the law to impart that same knowledge, understanding and comprehension into the

minds of his students during his service as an instructor at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy, Pearl Police Department, Rankin County Law Enforcement Training Institute, the Board of Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Training and as an adjunct professor at Mississippi College School of Law; and

WHEREAS, adamantly vigorous in his efforts of giving back to the community through social, civic and charitable organizations, Judge Richardson is a Gideon, member of the Masonic Lodge, York and Scottish Rite Masonic Bodies and the Wahabi Shrine Temple; and

WHEREAS, before and throughout the length of his spectacular career, Judge Richardson has been privileged to experience the blissfulness of love, support and encouragement from his wife of 40 years, the former Libby Ashley of Franklin County, Mississippi, and their two children, Kim and Steve; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend the remarkable career and public service of such an equally remarkable, talented, fair and knowledgeable individual as Judge Richardson, who has dedicated more than three decades of his life to promoting and upholding the pristine principals of justice and providing intellectual interpretation of the laws of the State of Mississippi to maximize the benefits and protection of its citizens:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the esteemed legal and judicial career and public service of the Honorable Judge Samac S. Richardson rendered to the citizens of Central Mississippi, congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement from public service and extend warmest wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors and for good health, happiness and peace of mind in the lighter years of his life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to The Honorable Judge Samac S. Richardson and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.