

Chapter No. 2224  
12/SS01/R1352  
JN 156/BW

***SENATE  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION  
No. 678***

Originated in Senate

*Liz Welch*

Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 678

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER MAYOR OF TCHULA, MISSISSIPPI, YVONNE RAYFORD BROWN, AND EXTENDING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND MANY FRIENDS UPON HER PASSING.

WHEREAS, Yvonne Rayford Brown, former Mayor of Tchula, and the first African-American Republican female Mayor in Mississippi, passed away on April 23, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Brown was educated at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 2007; and

WHEREAS, from 2001 through 2009, she served as Mayor of Tchula, and during her time as Mayor, she served with great dignity and a zeal for improving her town; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Brown was serving in the capacity of County Director of the Department of Human Services for Lowndes County at the time of her passing, and she held numerous positions of employment throughout her career, including: USDA - FSA special governmental employee; MDH/WIC - Holmes, Attala, Humphreys and Bolivar Counties; Office Manager for Mission Mississippi in Jackson, Mississippi; Customer Service Representative for Pharmacy Corporation of America in Dallas, Texas; Material Control/Expeditor for Irvin Automotive in Greenwood, Mississippi; OEM Expeditor for Monroe Auto Equipment in Monroe, Michigan; Equitable Life in Northwest Ohio; and Co-Founder of Grace Community Church in Tchula; and

WHEREAS, her roles of service to the State of Mississippi include: Keep Mississippi Beautiful Board of Directors, member;

Mississippi State Workforce Board of Directors, member; Abundant Blessing Theological, Trustee; Tchula Library Board of Directors, member; Southern Baptist Women's Missionary Union, special ministry worker; and Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors Executive Board, Chaplain; and

WHEREAS, as a driving force in bringing industry and business into numerous communities in Mississippi, she is remembered as an energetic person who possessed a contagious, natural drive to improve her community and spark growth. Friends remember Mayor Brown for her dedication to her fellowman, community and state; and

WHEREAS, her loving survivors include: daughters, Nichole Barnett and Aliya Barnett; mother, Hilda Rayford; sisters, LaVonne Rayford Chestang and Gail Rayford Ambeau; and a host of other family and friends; and

WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of this great and good spirit who devoted her life to service and who touched the lives of countless individuals in her community and in this great state:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the life and legacy of former Tchula Mayor Yvonne Rayford Brown, a dedicated mother, humanitarian, businesswoman, community servant and friend, and express deepest sympathy to her family and many friends upon her passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to

the surviving family of Mayor Brown, forwarded to the Board of Aldermen of Tchula and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE  
May 2, 2012

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
May 3, 2012

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES