

By: Representative Robinson (84th)

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107  
(As Adopted by House)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MS. BECKY MATHIS FOR BEING  
2 NAMED THE CHILD ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Becky Mathis was named the Child Advocate of the  
4 Year at the Bayview Hotel and Convention Center during the 1998  
5 State Children's Conference; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Mathis, currently President of the Mississippi  
7 Foster and Adoptive Parents Association, was presented the  
8 Advocate of the Year Award for her leadership in helping foster  
9 and adoptive children and their families; and

10 WHEREAS, drawing from her personal life experiences, Ms.  
11 Mathis fulfilled her lifetime dream of working with children and  
12 helping people who are in need and hurting; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Mathis gained national attention when she  
14 drafted legislation that mandated family preservation projects to  
15 keep natural families together in lieu of children entering the  
16 child welfare system; and

17 WHEREAS, since 1992, Ms. Mathis has served on several  
18 advisory boards to the Mississippi Legislature and the Mississippi  
19 Department of Human Services in an effort to represent the  
20 grassroots of Mississippi, and she currently serves on the Council  
21 of States for Mississippi; and

22 WHEREAS, in September 1997, Ms. Mathis organized the first  
23 nationally recognized statewide foster and adoptive parents  
24 association to provide training, education, public awareness and  
25 emotional support to thousands of foster and adoptive families,  
26 social workers and child welfare workers in Mississippi; and

27           WHEREAS, Ms. Mathis led the national delegation to  
28 Washington, D.C., in January 1999, as Chair of the Legislation  
29 Committee for the National Foster Parent Association to assist in  
30 drafting national legislation addressing the needs of families and  
31 children; and

32           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
33 and pay special tribute to outstanding Mississippians such as Ms.  
34 Becky Mathis, who has dedicated her untiring efforts to meet the  
35 needs of the children and parents in this state:

36           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
37 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
38 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Ms. Becky  
39 Mathis for being named the Child Advocate of the Year and extend  
40 to her our heartiest wishes for success in all her future  
41 endeavors.

42           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
43 furnished to Ms. Becky Mathis and to members of the Capitol Press  
44 Corps.