

By: Representative Ford

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 172

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND
2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. RICHARD BAXTER WILSON AND EXPRESSING
3 DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Richard Baxter Wilson of Madison, Mississippi,
5 departed this life on Monday, March 15, 1999, causing great loss
6 to his family and friends; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson, a former president of Mississippi Power
8 and Light, was a native of Yazoo City and graduated from the
9 University of Mississippi in 1927; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson began his long and distinguished career
11 with Mississippi Power and Light in 1926 in Cleveland before
12 transferring to Jackson, where he served as president of the
13 company from 1954 to 1969 and chairman of the board until his
14 retirement in 1976; and

15 WHEREAS, in addition to his responsibilities with Mississippi
16 Power and Light, Mr. Wilson served as chairman of the Jackson
17 Airport Authority, the Jackson Planning Board, the State National
18 Alliance of Businessmen and the Mississippi United States Savings
19 Bond Committee, and as the national vice president of the American
20 Red Cross; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson devoted much of his time and energy to
22 community service, having generously served as president of the
23 Jackson Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Rotary Clubs of
24 Jackson and Cleveland, the Andrew Jackson Council of Boy Scouts of
25 America, the Southeastern Electric Exchange, the Beauvoir
26 Foundation, the University of Mississippi Alumni Association and

27 the Newcomer Society of North America; and

28 WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Wilson actively served as a trustee
29 for many successful organizations and companies, such as Deposit
30 Guaranty National Bank, Bellhaven College, the University of
31 Mississippi Alumni Association, the National Association of
32 Electric Companies, the Edison Electric Institute, the
33 Southeastern Electric Exchange, Mississippi Economic Council,
34 Magna Corporation, Standard Life Insurance Company, the
35 Mississippi Agricultural and Industrial Board and Southern
36 Research Institute; and

37 WHEREAS, in recognition of his outstanding leadership and
38 countless contributions throughout the state, an endowed
39 fellowship at the University of Mississippi was established in
40 honor of Mr. Wilson; and

41 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson was the recipient of many honorable
42 awards, including the First Federal Award presented for his
43 distinguished service to the state; and

44 WHEREAS, a faithful member of First Presbyterian Church in
45 Jackson, Mr. Wilson served as a deacon for almost 50 years; and

46 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilson is survived by his two children, Richard
47 Baxter Wilson, Jr., and Miriam Weems, and two grandchildren; and

48 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
49 and pay special tribute to such outstanding Mississippians as Mr.
50 Richard Baxter Wilson, a remarkable citizen who dedicated his life
51 to the furthering development of this state and improving the
52 quality of life for all Mississippians:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
55 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the life and accomplishments of
56 Mr. Richard Baxter Wilson and express our deepest sympathy to his
57 family and friends upon his passing.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
59 furnished to the family of Mr. Richard Baxter Wilson and to
60 members of the Capitol Press Corps.