

By: Rogers

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MR. JIM
2 MAHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
3 AGENCY, UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Jim Maher, Executive Director of the Mississippi
5 Management Agency, also referred to as MEMA, will retire after 20
6 years of service; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher, born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was
8 appointed Midshipman in 1947 and graduated from the University of
9 Mississippi in 1951; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher was commissioned a second lieutenant in
11 the United States Marine Corps and saw combat in Korea, Vietnam
12 and served in other areas in addition to his posts and stations in
13 the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher retired from the Marine Corps in 1971 as
15 Lieutenant Colonel with military decorations and awards including
16 the Bronze Star with Combat "V" and the Meritorious Service Medal;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher earned a master's degree in public
19 administration and a master's degree in business administration
20 from Mississippi College; and

21 WHEREAS, after serving on the staff since October 1972, Mr.

22 Maher was appointed Executive Director of the Mississippi
23 Emergency Management Agency on February 16, 1980, by former
24 Governor William Winter; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher is the longest serving state director in
26 the nation and is the Dean of the National Emergency Management
27 Association; and

28 WHEREAS, during his 20 years of service, Mr. Maher has seen
29 the face of emergency management dramatically change from the
30 civil defense program of the 1950's to the comprehensive program
31 it is today; and

32 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Mr. Maher has represented
33 Mississippi in a wide number of national and regional
34 organizations including the National Emergency Management
35 Association, the Central United States Earthquake Consortium, the
36 Advisory Council for the National Institute of Urban Search and
37 Rescue, the National Task Force on Emergency Response, the
38 Mississippi Automated Resource Information System, the State
39 Mapping Advisory Committee, the Marine Corps Association, the
40 Retired Officers' Association and many more; and

41 WHEREAS, Mr. Maher has been lovingly supported in all his
42 endeavors by his wife of 48 years, the former Elizabeth Brown, and
43 their five children and two grandchildren; and

44 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
45 and commend outstanding Mississippians such as Mr. Jim Maher,
46 whose long and distinguished career has been devoted to protecting
47 the citizens of Mississippi and the nation from emergency
48 situations:

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
50 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
51 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mr. Jim Maher for his
52 outstanding service as the Executive Director of the Mississippi

53 Emergency Management Agency and congratulate him upon his
54 retirement.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
56 furnished to Mr. Jim Maher and to members of the Capitol Press
57 Corps.