

By: Representative Barbour

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE B.S. RICKS MEMORIAL
2 LIBRARY UPON THE CELEBRATION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

3 WHEREAS, the B.S. Ricks Memorial Library in Yazoo County,
4 Mississippi, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary; and

5 WHEREAS, the Yazoo Library Association, founded in 1838, was
6 chartered by the Mississippi Legislature to provide public library
7 service to Yazoo County; however, the association struggled for 60
8 years to find an appropriate location to house its books and serve
9 its members; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. B.S. Ricks adopted the library as her cause and
11 offered to build a new building for the Yazoo Library Association
12 in memory of her late husband, Benjamin S. Ricks; and

13 WHEREAS, with its beginning founded in providing books and
14 arranging debates for its members, the Ricks Memorial Library
15 adapted its services as the needs of its patrons changed; and

16 WHEREAS, throughout its 100-year history, the library has
17 provided books to its patrons as well as other services such as
18 book discussions, mail library service, bookmobile service and
19 services to the homebound; and

20 WHEREAS, the Ricks Memorial Library has survived the 1904
21 fire that destroyed most of downtown Yazoo City, the Mississippi
22 River flood of 1927 and narrowly missed destruction from the 1933
23 tornado; and

24 WHEREAS, the Ricks Memorial Library shows a successive number
25 of primary events among Mississippi's public libraries including
26 being the first public library in the state constructed completely

27 with memorial funds in 1900; the first public entity in Yazoo City
28 to integrate its facilities by signing the Compliance with the
29 Civil Rights Act of 1964 in 1965; the first public library in the
30 state to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places in
31 1975; the first public library in the state to automate its
32 library circulation, card catalog and cataloging functions in
33 1985; the first public library building in the state to reach its
34 centennial year of operation in 2001 and the oldest public library
35 building in the state; and

36 WHEREAS, the B.S. Ricks Memorial Library has provided the
37 citizens of Yazoo County with many services to fulfill their
38 literary needs for 100 years:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
40 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
41 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the B.S. Ricks
42 Memorial Library upon the celebration of its 100th Anniversary and
43 express our appreciation for its many years of services to the
44 citizens of this state.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
46 furnished to the B.S. Ricks Memorial Library and to the members of
47 the Capitol Press Corps.