

By: Representative Formby

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 91

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MS. MARY ELLEN DAVIS FOR  
2 FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PICAYUNE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

3 WHEREAS, on February 2, 2002, Ms. Mary Ellen Formby Davis  
4 celebrated 50 years of faithful service to the Picayune Housing  
5 Authority; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Davis, a native of Picayune, Mississippi, is the  
7 daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lourie N. Formby, Sr.; and

8 WHEREAS, upon graduating from Picayune High School, Mrs.  
9 Davis went to work at Camp Shelby Army facility, where she met and  
10 married her late husband, Major Bennie Davis; and

11 WHEREAS, throughout their early years of marriage, Ms. Davis  
12 worked for the United States government at military installations  
13 in the continental United States and overseas; and

14 WHEREAS, the Picayune Housing Authority, a nonprofit  
15 corporation, was organized in November 1950, by Ms. Davis' father,  
16 who served as chairman of the board of commissioners until his  
17 death in 1965; and

18 WHEREAS, Ms. Davis commenced her work with the Picayune  
19 Housing Authority on February 2, 1952, overseeing the planning  
20 and development of 65 dwelling units and an office, which was  
21 completed in 1953; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1959, following the death of her husband, Ms.  
23 Davis was appointed by the board of commissioners to succeed him  
24 as Executive Director of the Picayune Housing Authority, the  
25 position which she currently holds; and



26           WHEREAS, under Ms. Davis' capable direction, the Picayune  
27 Housing Authority has received seven annual Comprehensive Grant  
28 Programs; and

29           WHEREAS, since 1995, the Housing Authority has received  
30 Public Housing Drug Elimination Grants annually, making it  
31 possible to provide 12-hour police security and to sponsor  
32 education programs and activities focusing on health, personal  
33 responsibility, social skills, job training and educational  
34 opportunities; and

35           WHEREAS, Ms. Davis has attained many notable accomplishments  
36 in the field of public housing, serving as president of the  
37 Mississippi Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials and  
38 the Southeastern Regional Council of the National Association of  
39 Housing and Redevelopment Officials (SERC), as a representative  
40 for SERC on the National Board of Governors of the National  
41 Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, and as  
42 Chairman of the SERC Policy Advisory Committee; and

43           WHEREAS, currently overseeing 331 dwelling units, 92 of which  
44 are designated for the elderly and handicapped, Ms. Davis has  
45 recently been appointed to serve on the SERC Executive and  
46 Nominating Committees by incoming SERC President Donald Cameron;  
47 and

48           WHEREAS, Ms. Davis, throughout her every endeavor to  
49 accommodate others, has increasingly enjoyed the love and support  
50 of her daughter, and only child, Janet Ellen Davis; and

51           WHEREAS, Ms. Davis, a member of the First Baptist Church of  
52 Picayune where she has actively served on the Church Finance  
53 Committee and Building Committee, is socially active in the  
54 Picayune community and is a member of the Woman's Club, Garden  
55 Club, Order of Eastern Star and Pearl River County Cooperative  
56 Extension Service Advisory Council and a board member of the Boys  
57 and Girls Club; and



58           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
59 and commend outstanding Mississippians such as Ms. Mary Ellen  
60 Formby Davis, who has devoted her career to helping better the  
61 lives of those less fortunate than her and vastly contributed to  
62 the efforts to provide quality housing for all people of Picayune:

63           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
64 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
65 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Ms. Mary Ellen  
66 Formby Davis for 50 years of dedicated service to the Picayune  
67 Housing Authority, her community, state and nation and wish her  
68 many years of good health, peace and happiness.

69           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
70 furnished to Ms. Mary Ellen Formby Davis and to the members of the  
71 Capitol Press Corps.

