

By: Representative Mayo

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 84

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. ROBERT BALLARD FOR HIS
2 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN DEEP-OCEAN ARCHAEOLOGY AND SCIENCE.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Robert Ballard, after receiving thousands of
4 letters from school children wanting to know how he discovered the
5 *RMS Titanic*, founded the JASON Project in 1989, which is a
6 nonprofit educational organization working in partnership with
7 teachers, students, corporations, educational institutions and
8 government to inspire in students a lifelong passion to pursue
9 learning in science, math and technology through exploration and
10 discovery; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Ballard is the founder and head of the Institute
12 for Exploration (IFE) at Mystic Marinelife Aquarium in Mystic,
13 Connecticut, which specializes in deep-ocean archaeology and whose
14 goal is to establish this new field of research utilizing evolving
15 technology such as advanced mapping imaging systems, underwater
16 robotics and manned submersibles; and

17 WHEREAS, after receiving his undergraduate degree in geology
18 and chemistry from the University of California, Dr. Ballard
19 attended graduate school at the University of Southern California,
20 the University of Hawaii's Graduate School of Oceanography and
21 received his Ph.D. in marine geology and geophysics from the
22 University of Rhode Island; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Ballard is also a distinguished military
24 graduate of the University of California with a Commission in Army
25 Intelligence, which was transferred to the United States Navy, and
26 he served on active duty during the Vietnam War as an Ensign,



27 Lieutenant J.G. and finally as a Lieutenant, then joined the
28 United States Naval Reserves as a Commander; and

29 WHEREAS, the more than 100 deep sea expeditions Dr. Ballard
30 has led or participated in, which included the use of the
31 deep-diving submersibles ALVIN, ARCHIMEDE, TRIESTE II, TURTLE, BEN
32 FRANKLIN, CYANA and NR-1, led to the discovery of high temperature
33 "black smokers," the *R.M.S. Titanic*, the German battleship
34 *Bismarck*, 11 warships from the lost fleet of Guadalcanal, *The*
35 *U.S.S. Yorktown* and exploration of the luxury liner *Lusitania*; and

36 WHEREAS, not only has Dr. Ballard published over 50
37 scientific articles in journals including *Science*, *Nature*, *Earth*
38 *and Planetary Science Letters*, and the *Journal of Geophysical*
39 *Research*, but he also received the Newcomb-Cleveland award from
40 the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for
41 an article he coauthored in *Science*, detailing the discovery of
42 high temperature vent fields in the East Pacific Rise; and

43 WHEREAS, the books Dr. Ballard has written on his discoveries
44 of the *R.M.S. Titanic*, *Bismarck* and the *Lusitania* are worldwide
45 bestsellers; and

46 WHEREAS, Dr. Ballard is a member of Sigma Xi, Oceanography
47 Society, Geological Society of America, Marine Technology Society,
48 American Association for the Advancement of Science, American
49 Geophysical Union and The Bohemian Club, and he holds Honorary
50 Degrees from the University of Rhode Island, Clark University,
51 Southeastern Massachusetts University, Long Island University,
52 Southampton, the University of Bath, England, Lehigh University,
53 Skidmore College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Bridgewater
54 State College, Tufts University, Lenoir-Rhyne College, Maine
55 Maritime Academy and Massachusetts Maritime Academy; and

56 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend an
57 exceptional individual such as Dr. Robert Ballard, who has many
58 outstanding achievements, and has made great strides and many



59 important discoveries in the field of deep-ocean archaeology and
60 science in general:

61 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
62 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
63 THEREIN, That we commend Dr. Robert Ballard on all of his
64 outstanding achievements in deep-ocean archaeology and science,
65 and wish him future success in all of his future endeavors.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
67 furnished to Dr. Robert Ballard and to members of the Capitol
68 Press Corp.

