

By: Representative Nettles

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 97

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 SOUTH MCCOMB BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP UPON THEIR 100TH
3 ANNIVERSARY.

4 WHEREAS, the South McComb Baptist Church membership will
5 celebrate an exceptional milestone, their 100 year anniversary, on
6 March 30, 2003; and

7 WHEREAS, South McComb Baptist Church was founded in early
8 1902 by Mr. and Mrs. S. Murray Wilson, and because of a historical
9 phenomenon, which was the combination of two churches, South
10 McComb Baptist Church is in existence today; and

11 WHEREAS, Whitestown Baptist Church, which was organized on
12 January 27, 1894, passed a resolution on November 7, 1902, that
13 read as follows: "That if the Baptist people in South McComb are
14 willing to purchase a lot in South McComb and build a house for
15 Baptist worship and to hold their membership in it, the Baptist
16 people in Whitestown are willing to join them in the effort to
17 build the house, and to hold our membership with them"; and

18 WHEREAS, the following resolution was unanimously passed in
19 1903: "Resolved, that Whitestown Baptist Church do hereby apply
20 to South McComb Baptist Church for membership," and it was
21 understood that the members of the Whitestown Baptist Church
22 transferring to South McComb Baptist Church were to be enrolled as
23 charter members, and on February 8, 1903, the Whitestown Baptist
24 Church appointed their committee "to operate with the committee of
25 the South McComb Church," and five months later these two
26 committees were in the process of building the first church
27 building together; and



28 WHEREAS, for the first fifty years, South McComb Baptist
29 Church had only four pastors, the first of whom was Reverend J.P.
30 Hemby who served one year, the second pastor was Reverend J.H.
31 Lane who served from 1904 to 1922, the third pastor was Reverend
32 R.R. Jones, and the ministry of James A. Bryant as pastor began on
33 January 18, 1948; and

34 WHEREAS, a Sunday School was implemented immediately
35 following the organization of the church, a Woman's Missionary
36 Society was active as early as 1905, and a Brotherhood was
37 organized in 1946; and

38 WHEREAS, church members voted to appoint a building committee
39 for a pastor's home on December 4, 1921, the education annex was
40 built in 1949, and the basement of the church was completely
41 remodeled in 1951; and

42 WHEREAS, Reverend C.F. Barnes moved to South McComb from
43 Wesson, MS, to serve as pastor in October 1953, and Reverend
44 Herman P. Hayes of Bossier City, LA, accepted the pastorate of
45 South McComb Baptist Church in July 1956, and Brother and Mrs.
46 Hayes served South McComb Baptist Church until July 1959, at which
47 time they departed for South Viet Nam under appointment of the
48 Foreign Mission Board, and Reverend W.R. Gifford moved to South
49 McComb Baptist Church from Picayune, MS, in December 1959; and

50 WHEREAS, the church built an educational building that served
51 eight elementary departments and dedication services were held for
52 the new elementary building in May 1963; and

53 WHEREAS, Reverend David A. Millican, who moved to South
54 McComb Baptist Church from Stonewall, MS, began his service on
55 July 15, 1963, and in September 1964, the church voted to proceed
56 with plans to build a new auditorium, which was completed and
57 dedicated in September 1965; and

58 WHEREAS, in September 1965, Reverend Millican started the
59 Kindergarten Ministry of South McComb Baptist Church, which at one
60 time was the largest kindergarten in Southwest Mississippi, and



61 the kindergarten has been a strong ministry of South McComb
62 Baptist Church for 38 years; and

63 WHEREAS, a new bell tower was constructed on the west side of
64 the sanctuary and dedicated on Bi-Centennial Sunday, July 4, 1976,
65 and the 75th Anniversary Celebration was held on September 17,
66 1978, with Dr. Earl Kelly, Executive Director-Treasurer of the
67 Mississippi Baptist Convention Board as guest speaker; and

68 WHEREAS, on March 27, 1987, Andrea Fleming was recognized at
69 a statewide Acteens meeting for receiving the Mississippi
70 Citation, the highest individual achievement award presented by
71 the Mississippi Acteen organization, and on July 14, 1996, a
72 special day of services was held in honor of Dr. David Millican's
73 33 years of service to South McComb Baptist Church; and

74 WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Johnson was called as a pastor in August
75 1996, and Reverend Ted C. Bowlin of Monticello, MS, was called as
76 a pastor on October 11, 1998; and

77 WHEREAS, looking back over the last 100 years of ministry of
78 the church, it is evident that the Lord has guided South McComb
79 Baptist Church every step of the way, and as the church begins a
80 new time of service and outreach for the Lord, they are sure to
81 discover ministries and opportunities not yet comprehended, and
82 because of faithfulness of Him who has called them, they will
83 carry the standard as those who have gone before them; and

84 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature of the State of
85 Mississippi to recognize and commend an outstanding church such as
86 South McComb Baptist Church, that has been a remarkable
87 inspiration to people throughout Mississippi and the world:

88 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
89 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
90 THEREIN, That we commend and congratulate South McComb Baptist
91 Church membership upon a milestone, their 100 year anniversary,
92 and we wish them every success in all their future endeavors.



93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
94 furnished to South McComb Baptist Church and to members of the
95 Capitol Press Corps.

