

By: Representatives Clark, Bailey, Malone,  
Young

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. WINSON HUDSON FOR HER MANY  
2 OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Winson Hudson was born on November 17, 1916, in  
4 the all African-American community of Harmony, Mississippi, in  
5 Leake County; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudson, along with her sister, Dovie, emerged  
7 as courageous leaders in the freedom struggle in the early 1960s  
8 and filed the first suit for school desegregation in a rural  
9 Mississippi county; and

10 WHEREAS, having been one of the first to register to vote,  
11 Mrs. Hudson became involved in the NAACP and was elected president  
12 of the county chapter and served for the next 38 years; and

13 WHEREAS, subjected to harassment and threats of violence,  
14 Mrs. Hudson appeared before the United States Commission on Civil  
15 Rights in February of 1965 to speak about the harassment of her  
16 fellow neighbors who were being harassed while attempting to  
17 register to vote; and

18 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudson was instrumental in the establishment of  
19 the first Head Start program in Leake County, voter registration  
20 drives, the integration of the Holiday Inn in Clarksdale, and  
21 helped with the efforts to desegregate all public facilities in  
22 Carthage, Mississippi; and

23 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudson has been recognized for her many  
24 outstanding accomplishments including serving as a delegate to the  
25 Democratic National Convention in 1976 and was presented the  
26 Fannie Lou Hamer Award by the Mississippi Democratic Party in  
27 1989; and



28           WHEREAS, in 1989, Mrs. Hudson attended the opening of Brian  
29 Lanker's photographic exhibition, "I Dream A World: Portraits of  
30 Black Women Who Changed America," at the Corcoran Gallery in  
31 Washington, D.C., which featured a photo of Mrs. Hudson and her  
32 sister; and

33           WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudson testified on behalf of Mississippi's  
34 poor citizens before President Bill Clinton's Health Reform Task  
35 Committee in Washington, D.C., in 1994; and

36           WHEREAS, in the fall of 2002, Mrs. Hudson fulfilled her life  
37 long dream and heart's desire with the publication of her book,  
38 "Mississippi Harmony"; and

39           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives of  
40 the State of Mississippi to recognize and commend outstanding  
41 citizens such as Mrs. Hudson, who has dedicated her life to  
42 improve the quality of life for people everywhere:

43           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
44 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
45 commend Mrs. Winson Hudson for her many outstanding contributions  
46 to the civil rights movement and express our heartfelt wishes for  
47 success in all her future endeavors.

48           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
49 furnished to Mrs. Winson Hudson and to the members of the Capitol  
50 Press Corps.

