

By: Representatives Eaton, Scott, Shows

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 23

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOHN
2 HARRISON MOODY AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND
3 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. John Harrison Moody, who was born January 9,
5 1913, in Ellisville, Mississippi, to the late Charlie and Charity
6 Moody, departed this life on Tuesday, January 13, 2004, to enter
7 into eternal rest, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and
8 friends; and

9 WHEREAS, having lived a life full of magnificent
10 accomplishments, Mr. Moody received his formal education at Mt.
11 Pleasant Training School, Rosenwald (Shady Oak) in Soso,
12 Mississippi, and graduated from Oak Park High School in Laurel,
13 Mississippi, before attending Jones Junior College in Ellisville,
14 Mississippi; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Moody, a staunch advocate for the civil rights
16 movement, registered to vote in Jones County in 1936 when Franklin
17 Delano Roosevelt was president, and voted for the first time in
18 Mississippi in 1951; and

19 WHEREAS, in April of 1940 he united in holy matrimony with
20 Ernestine Currie and to their union they were blessed with three
21 children, John Eldree, Joyce and Belinda Ruth; and

22 WHEREAS, deemed a pioneer in his day, Mr. Moody was able,
23 during the time of the Great Depression, to loan money to the
24 Jones County Training School to purchase its first basketball, and
25 was the first African American in Jones County to own a brand new
26 school bus; and

27 WHEREAS, a lifelong member of the Mt. Pleasant Missionary
28 Baptist Church, where he confessed his hope in Christ at the age
29 of eight, Mr. Moody served as deacon, fifteen-year member of the
30 male choir, Baptist Training Union group captain, church
31 treasurer, finance secretary and assistant superintendent of
32 Sunday School; and

33 WHEREAS, Mr. Moody was highly visible and active in the
34 community, he engaged in many social, civic and political
35 involvements, including: 4-H Club; manager of a baseball team;
36 Jones County Board of Produce; Mt. Lebon Masonic Lodge No. 269,
37 where he served as Worshipful Master and Junior Warden of the 12th
38 District Grand Lodge, in addition to having served as treasurer,
39 secretary and Senior Warden; honorable Joshua of Soso Court No.
40 231 Heroines of Jericho; Shady Oak School Board trustee; assistant
41 secretary and finance secretary for the banking committee of the
42 First Sweet Pilgrim Association; having sought the election to the
43 Board of Education of Jones County in 1968 and Road Supervisor in
44 1970; Chairman of the Election Commission; and being elected to
45 the Jones County Democratic Executive Committee; and

46 WHEREAS, hailed as a strong community pillar, Mr. Moody has
47 been showered with awards and recognition, such as the NAACP
48 Outstanding Achievement Award, Retired Volunteer Program Honor for
49 community service as a senior volunteer, John H. Moody Day on
50 August 8, 1996, declared by Mayor Susan B. Vincent, oldest
51 delegate at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1996
52 at the age of 83, resolution in his honor from the Jones County
53 Board of Supervisors, Hall of Fame Award for loyalty and service
54 to the Mississippi Democratic Party, Distinguished Worshipful
55 Masters Award, Currie/Chapman Family Reunion Appreciation Award
56 and the Fannie Lou Hamer Award from the Mississippi State
57 Democratic Party; and

58 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
59 and commend excellence in the lives of outstanding Mississippians

60 such as Mr. Moody, whose life as a farmer, businessman, laborer,
61 bus driver, Head Start Center Director, Christian and all around
62 humanitarian was a pinnacle of excellence and served as a beacon
63 of hope and inspiration for all:

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
65 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
66 commend the life and accomplishments of Mr. John H. Moody and
67 express deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his
68 passing.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
70 furnished to the family of Mr. John H. Moody and to the members of
71 the Capitol Press Corps.