

By: Representatives Huddleston, Evans, West

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 35

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PERCY
2 LEE BREWER, SR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND
3 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Percy L. Brewer, Sr., born February 26, 1931, to the
5 late John and Janice Brewer, Sr., departed this earthly life on
6 January 19, 2004, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and
7 friends; and

8 WHEREAS, a prominent leader and activist in Tallahatchie
9 County, Mississippi, during the Civil Rights Movement, Mr. Brewer,
10 who was also a longtime member of the NAACP, was devoted to his
11 beliefs in equality for all; and

12 WHEREAS, on August 19, 1964, Mr. Brewer, along with his two
13 brothers, Eugene and Jessie, were the first blacks to enter the
14 Tallahatchie County Courthouse to register to vote; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Brewer traveled to Washington, D.C., in order to
16 bring the Civil Rights Movement to Tallahatchie County, and after
17 returning, he, along with Gus McClinton, Jessie Thomas, Jessie
18 Brewer and Bessie Tyler were the first to register their children
19 into a segregated school under the Freedom of Choice Form; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Brewer's activism during the Civil Rights
21 Movement was imperative to Project Headstart being brought into
22 Tallahatchie County, working diligently along with other
23 outstanding Civil Rights activists such as Margaret Block, Solomon
24 Gort, Fannie Lou Hamer, Professor Gray, Jessie Brewer, Naomi
25 Wiggins and Stokley Carmichael to name a few; and

26 WHEREAS, living a life of remarkable undertakings and even
27 greater feats of success, Mr. Brewer's hope for an equally unified

28 nation and state paved the way for the future of Tallahatchie
29 County; and

30 WHEREAS, a devoted and faithful member of the Old Bethel
31 Missionary Baptist Church, Mr. Brewer was united in holy matrimony
32 to the former Alzea Lee McKinley on July 9, 1954, and to their
33 union 17 children were born; and

34 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
35 recognize and commend excellence in the lives of such outstanding
36 individuals as Mr. Brewer, whose tireless devotion to the cause
37 and furtherance of the Civil Rights Movement were monumental in
38 the advancement of the rights of African Americans in Tallahatchie
39 County:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
41 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
42 commend the life and accomplishments of Percy Lee Brewer, Sr., and
43 express our deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his
44 passing.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
46 furnished to Mr. Brewer's wife, Alzea Brewer, and to the members
47 of the Capitol Press Corps.