

By: Representatives Holloway, Hudson,  
Weathersby, Barnett

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 49

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SUCCESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
2 JUDGE MABLEAN EPHRIAM AND RECOGNIZING HER CONTRIBUTIONS AS A  
3 NATIONAL MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER.

4 WHEREAS, Judge Mablean Ephriam, a native of Hazlehurst,  
5 Mississippi, and resident of Los Angeles, California, has  
6 surmounted various obstacles to obtain national acclaim, notoriety  
7 and greatness, and has used her gifts and success to change and  
8 inspire the lives of many throughout the United States as a  
9 motivational speaker; and

10 WHEREAS, the ninth child of ten children born to Robert and  
11 Mable Ephriam, and the proud mother of four children, Judge  
12 Ephriam is now the presiding TV Judge on "Divorce Court,"  
13 televised by Fox Television; and

14 WHEREAS, presiding over "Divorce Court" since 1998, Judge  
15 Ephriam recently shared in the joyous occasion of the show's  
16 1,000th episode; and

17 WHEREAS, beginning her legal career in law enforcement as a  
18 correctional officer at the Women's Division of the Federal Bureau  
19 of Prisoners, Terminal Islands, Judge Ephriam's determination and  
20 perseverance allowed her to pursue her childhood dream of becoming  
21 a lawyer; and

22 WHEREAS, while raising a family, she accepted employment as a  
23 legal secretary, simultaneously attending and ultimately  
24 completing her course of studies at Whittier College of Law; and

25 WHEREAS, a nationally recognized speaker traveling throughout  
26 the country to inform and educate individuals on real-life topics,  
27 Judge Ephriam, equipped with over 20 years of experience as a

28 trial attorney and mediator, brings a wealth of knowledge and  
29 expertise to the bench of "Divorce Court"; and

30 WHEREAS, well known for her community and professional  
31 involvement, Judge Ephriam is co-owner of E & E House of Care,  
32 "Assisted Living for the Elderly" and founder of the Honoring  
33 Unsung Fathers (H.U.F.) Awards, which recognizes fathers who  
34 accept responsibility for their children and participate in the  
35 vital developments in their lives; and

36 WHEREAS, recipient of numerous honors, awards and  
37 recognitions, Judge Ephriam has been recognized by the Women's  
38 Lawyers Association of Los Angeles with a Distinguished Service  
39 Award for her contribution as cofounder of the Harriet Buhai  
40 Center for Family Law, in addition to having received the 1995  
41 Woman of the Year Award presented by the California State Assembly  
42 - 48th District; and

43 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
44 recognize and commend such outstanding Mississippians as Judge  
45 Ephriam, whose life, works and contributions to society reflect  
46 the inner depths of warmth, congeniality, hospitality and genuine  
47 concern for mankind that makes the State of Mississippi proud of  
48 its natives:

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
50 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
51 commend and congratulate Judge Mablean Ephriam on her many  
52 successes and accomplishments, recognize her contributions as a  
53 nationally acclaimed motivational speaker and extend our heartiest  
54 wishes for success in all her future endeavors.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
56 furnished to Judge Mablean Ephriam and to the members of the  
57 Capitol Press Corps.