By: Representatives Weathersby, Clarke

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF MIKE BRYANT FOR HIS 1 MANY YEARS OF CONTRIBUTION AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE STATE OF 2 3 MISSISSIPPI AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON HIS RETIREMENT. 4 WHEREAS, Mike Bryant will retire as an employee of the State of Mississippi on June 30, 2004, after more than 25 years of 5 committed and diligent services to the state and its citizens; and 6 WHEREAS, born on August 21, 1939, in Vicksburg, Mississippi, 7 8 Mike began his career with the state on June 9, 1980, with the Maintenance Division of Capitol Commission; and 9

10 WHEREAS, at the commencement of his employment, Mike was 11 assigned to the Sillers Building, the Gartin Justice Building, the 12 Old Capitol Building, the Archives and History Building and the 13 Robert E. Lee Building before being assigned in September 1983, to 14 the Governor's Mansion on a full-time basis, fulfilling the 15 position of Facilities Manager for more than 13 years; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1996, Mike assumed new duties at the New Capitol 17 as Building Manager, a position he has maintained until his date 18 of retirement; and

19 WHEREAS, during his illustrious career with the State of 20 Mississippi, Mike has served under the leadership of six 21 governors, including Governors William Winter, Bill Allain, Ray 22 Mabus, Kirk Fordice, Ronnie Musgrove and Haley Barbour; and

23 WHEREAS, Clerk of the House, Don Richardson, former Executive 24 Director of General Services, describes Mike as "one of the most 25 dedicated employees he has had the privilege of working with"; and 26 WHEREAS, with a total of 4,750 lights illuminating the New

27 Capitol, Mike has changed every light at least once; and

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28 WHEREAS, once having a staunch fear of heights, Mike overcame 29 his fear, rising to the occasion, to hoist the State Flag of 30 Mississippi on the House and Senate domes of the New Capitol, 31 allowing them to fly proudly during each session of the 32 Mississippi Legislature; and

33 WHEREAS, a devoted husband of 38 years, Mike is married to 34 the former Betty Pope of Kosciusko, Mississippi, and together they 35 have two children, Donald (Donnie) and Alison; and three 36 grandchildren, Kristen, Cody and Tyler; and

37 WHEREAS, a faithfully devoted member of the Briar Hill 38 Baptist Church of Florence, Mississippi, where he is a member of 39 the adult choir; Mike, an accomplished songster, sang with the 40 Gospel Messengers, a gospel quartet, from 1969 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, during the quartet's tenure, Mike and his fellow members recorded three albums and performed at numerous correctional facilities, serving as a source of spiritual encouragement and inspiration for those incarcerated; and

45 WHEREAS, Mike has gone above and beyond the call of duty in 46 his efforts of assuring the proper operation of the facilities 47 under his management, and has used his God-given talent to render 48 assistance to those in need, in addition to providing maintenance 49 services at his church; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to 51 recognize and commend excellence of such outstanding state 52 employees as Mike Bryant, whose services to the State of 53 Mississippi were monumental in their own respect and whose 54 presence will be greatly missed at the New Capitol:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Mike Bryant upon his retirement after 25 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the State of Mississippi, and we extend to him our heartiest wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

H. R. No. 93 *HRO3/R2300* 04/HR03/R2300 PAGE 2 (DJ\LH) 61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be 62 furnished to Mike Bryant and to the members of the Capitol Press 63 Corps.