

By: Representatives Smith (27th), Flaggs,  
Stevens, Harrison, Coleman (29th), Bailey,  
Blackmon, Bondurant, Broomfield, Buck,  
Burnett, Calhoun, Clark, Clarke, Dickson,  
Ellis, Espy, Fleming, Fredericks, Gibbs,  
Green, Hines, Holloway, Huddleston, Malone, McCoy, Middleton, Morris,  
Myers, Perkins, Robinson (63rd), Scott, Straughter, Thomas, Watson,  
West, Whittington, Young

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 107

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, CONTRIBUTIONS OF MRS.  
2 WINSON HUDSON FOR HER MANY OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE  
3 CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER  
4 FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HER PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Winson Hudson was born on November 17, 1916, in  
6 the all African-American community of Harmony, Mississippi, in  
7 Leake County, departed this earthly life to enter into eternal  
8 rest on Saturday, April 24, 2004, causing great sorrow and loss to  
9 her family and friends; and

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

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

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

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

27 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hudson has been recognized for many outstanding  
28 accomplishments, including serving as a delegate to the Democratic

29 National Convention in 1976 and was presented the Fannie Lou Hamer  
30 Award by the Mississippi Democratic Party in 1989; and

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

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

39 WHEREAS, in the fall of 2002, Mrs. Hudson fulfilled her  
40 life-long dream and heart's desire with the publication of her  
41 book, Mississippi Harmony, Memoirs of a Freedom Fighter; and

42 WHEREAS, the life of Mrs. Hudson was as the beauty and  
43 fragrance of flowers that brighten the countryside, and not lived  
44 in vain, for it filled its place in the world and will forever  
45 fill a place in the hearts and memories of her loved ones; and

46 WHEREAS, her soul is safe with the Heavenly Father to dwell  
47 throughout eternity, we give thanks to Almighty God for Mrs.  
48 Hudson's life, and honor her legacy along with her survivors; and

49 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives of  
50 the State of Mississippi to recognize and commend the lives of  
51 outstanding citizens such as Mrs. Hudson, who dedicated her life  
52 to improving the quality of life for people everywhere:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
55 commend the life of Mrs. Winson Hudson for her many outstanding  
56 contributions to the civil rights movement and express deepest  
57 sympathy to her family and friends upon her passing.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
59 furnished to the family of Mrs. Winson Hudson and to the members  
60 of the Capitol Press Corps.