

By: Representatives Dickson, Ellis, Gibbs,  
Myers, Perkins

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 117

1       A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CITIZENRY AND COMMUNITY OF MACON,  
2 MISSISSIPPI, FOR ITS UNIFICATION IN SUPPORT OF THE THOMAS HAMILL  
3 FAMILY.

4       WHEREAS, during the time of Thomas Hamill's captivity by  
5 Islamic insurgents in Iraq and ultimate escape on May 2, 2004, the  
6 citizen body of Macon, Mississippi, united in spiritual love,  
7 support and encouragement for the Hamill family; and

8       WHEREAS, the town of approximately 2,500 inhabitants came  
9 together in one accord, despite religious affiliations, cultural  
10 backgrounds and social affiliations, to lift the hope, spirit and  
11 countenance of the Hamill family through many prayers, vigils and  
12 memorial services; and

13       WHEREAS, this unification of the citizens exhibits the true  
14 spirit of brotherhood and compassion that sets the citizens of  
15 Mississippi apart from all others, giving new meaning to the  
16 phrase, "The Hospitality State"; and

17       WHEREAS, putting their belief and a fervent trust in God, the  
18 residents of Macon never gave up hope that Thomas Hamill would  
19 eventually make a safe and long-awaited journey home; and

20       WHEREAS, upon receiving the news of Thomas Hamill's daring  
21 escape and safe retrieval by United States Armed Forces, a prayer  
22 of relief echoed throughout the town's churches, homes and  
23 businesses; and

24       WHEREAS, while the situation surrounding Mr. Hamill's capture  
25 was an unfortunate and emotionally taxing on the residents of  
26 Macon, this circumstance also proved positive by unifying the

27       community with one heart, one body and one spirit to accomplish  
28       one goal; and

29           WHEREAS, the House of Representatives seeks to commend the  
30       outpouring of love, support and encouragement exemplified by the  
31       residents of Macon, who have demonstrated to the state and nation  
32       that "it takes a village" to effectuate change and accomplish  
33       goals:

34           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
35       REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
36       commend the citizenry and community of Macon, Mississippi, for its  
37       unified support of the Hamill family.

38           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
39       furnished to Mayor Dorothy Baker Hines on behalf of the citizens  
40       of Macon and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.