

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING EXEMPLARY DEDICATION OF AUGUSTUS LEON
2 COLLINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AND CONGRATULATING
3 HIM UPON HIS PROMOTION AS BRIGADIER GENERAL.

4 WHEREAS, formerly a colonel in the Mississippi Army National
5 Guard, Augustus Leon Collins, was recently promoted by the
6 Adjutant General of the Mississippi National Guard, Major General
7 Harold A. Cross, to the position of Brigadier General, becoming
8 the first African-American general in the Mississippi National
9 Guard; and

10 WHEREAS, a Booneville native and 28-year National Guard
11 veteran, General Collins was selected by Major General Cross in
12 August 2004 to command the 155th Brigade Combat Team, the oldest
13 unit in the Mississippi National Guard and the seventh oldest
14 regiment unit in the nation; and

15 WHEREAS, a graduate of Booneville High School, General
16 Collins received an Associate of Arts Degree from Northeast
17 Mississippi Junior College, a Bachelor of Business Administration
18 Degree from the University of Mississippi, a Master of Business
19 Administration Degree from Jackson State University and a Master
20 of Strategic Studies Degree from the United States Army War
21 College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania; and

22 WHEREAS, General Collins began his military career on March
23 12, 1977, when he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard,
24 upon graduation from Officer Candidate School on July 26, 1980, he
25 was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Armor, and assigned as a
26 Platoon Leader, Company C, 1-198th Armor Battalion; and

27 WHEREAS, General Collins' other assignments include:
28 Executive Officer, Company C, 1-198th Armor Battalion; Commander,
29 Company C, 1-198th Armor Battalion; Commander, Company B, 1-198th
30 Armor Battalion; Deputy Inspector General, Headquarters STARC,
31 MSARNG; Assistant Chief of Staff, Headquarters STARC, MSARNG;
32 Training Officer, Headquarters STARC, MSARNG; Headquarters
33 Commandant, Headquarters STARC, MSARNG; Battalion Commander,
34 2-198th Armor Battalion; Deputy Director, Military Personnel,
35 Headquarters STARC, MSARNG; Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel,
36 Headquarters STARC, MSARNG; Commander, 154th Infantry Regiment
37 (Regional Training Institute), Camp Shelby, MS; and, Commander,
38 155th Separate Armored Brigade; and

39 WHEREAS, the 155th Separate Armored Brigade mobilized in
40 September 2004 as the 155th Brigade Combat Team and deployed to
41 support Operation Iraqi Freedom in January 2005, where Colonel
42 Collins was promoted to Brigadier General on May 10, 2005, in
43 Iraq; and

44 WHEREAS, highly decorated for his valor in the face of
45 adversity, General Collins epitomizes the spirit of the
46 Mississippi National Guard and has risen through the ranks
47 continually training himself and soldiers for duty in combat, to
48 personify the perfect example of leadership; and

49 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
50 recognize and commend excellence, as that exuded by General
51 Collins, whose ability to lead his troops gallantly in battle is
52 the trademark of a great American hero:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
55 commend the exemplary dedication of Augustus Leon Collins to the
56 Mississippi Army National Guard, congratulate him upon his
57 promotion as Brigadier General and extend our warmest wishes for
58 safety and success in all his future endeavors.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
60 furnished to Brigadier General Augustus Leon Collins, the
61 Mississippi National Guard Headquarters and to the members of the
62 Capitol Press Corps.