

By: Representatives Peranich,
Simpson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MRS. MARGUERITE
2 OWEN KALIF ON THE OCCASION OF HER 90TH BIRTHDAY AND HONORING HER
3 HERITAGE.

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Marguerite Owen Kalif, of Lebanese extract,
5 whose lineage dates back to ElMurr Clan in 1139 A.D., will
6 celebrate her 90th year of life this year; and

7 WHEREAS, having fled Lebanon under Turkish occupation,
8 Marguerite's parents, Adgia ElMurr and Chukri Aoun (Owen), came to
9 America in pursuit of a better living for their family,
10 establishing homestead in Gulfport, Mississippi; and

11 WHEREAS, eking out a living through hard work, Chukri began
12 peddling from Gulfport, first by foot, then by trolley, then by
13 horse and buggy, until he eventually opened his own grocery and
14 mercantile store and gradually began to acquire property; and

15 WHEREAS, after Marguerite married William Joseph Kalif of
16 McComb, the couple operated Kalif's Food Market in Pass Christian
17 and became a pinnacle of service to their community; and

18 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. and Mrs. Kalif financed
19 houses in the African-American community, extended credit and
20 loans to citizens in need, who could not afford adequate food,
21 clothing and shelter and became charter members in the purchase of
22 the War Memorial Park; and

23 WHEREAS, having invested in the insurance business,
24 continuing to accumulate property along the way, the Kalif's
25 ultimately ventured into, and still remain today in the profession
26 of realty; and

27 WHEREAS, Marguerite's life and devoted love with William
28 produced four offspring, all daughters, Mary Ruby Kalif Sellier,
29 Barbara Adgia Kalif Bryant (deceased), Margaret Jean Kalif and Jo
30 Ellen Kalif Ballanco; and

31 WHEREAS, this year of 2005 marks Mrs. Kalif's 90th
32 anniversary of life, which is rich in history, heritage and
33 humanity and is blessed beyond measure as she is loved by her
34 three surviving daughters, nine grandchildren and 13
35 great-grandchildren; and

36 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
37 recognize and commend such an honorable and deserving individual
38 as Mrs. Kalif, whose life of giving has in turn blessed her with a
39 life of longevity:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
41 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
42 commend and congratulate Mrs. Marguerite Owen Kalif on the
43 occasion of her 90th birthday, honor her heritage and express
44 warmest wishes for continued health, love, joy and happiness.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
46 furnished to Mrs. Kalif and to the members of the Capitol Press
47 Corps.