

By: Senator(s) Gollott, Hewes

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING BRUCE STEWART OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI,
2 FOR HIS COMMITMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GULF COAST COMMUNITY
3 AND TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Bruce Stewart of Biloxi, Mississippi, has been a
5 tireless supporter of civic and charitable organizations on the
6 Mississippi Gulf Coast; and

7 WHEREAS, a West Virginia native, Bruce Stewart moved to
8 Mississippi when he was 17. He joined the Army and returned home
9 a decorated Korean War Veteran. After completing post graduate
10 studies at the University of Southern Mississippi via the GI Bill,
11 Stewart began his career as an educator with Biloxi Public Schools
12 serving as an Industrial Arts Teacher, Principal, Assistant
13 Superintendent and interim Superintendent. He helped found the
14 Boy's Club of Biloxi and has served on their board for 35 years.
15 He was active in the Biloxi Jaycees and was named by them as
16 Biloxi's Outstanding Young Man of the Year in 1968; and

17 WHEREAS, August 16, 2004, was declared "Bruce Stewart Day" by
18 the Biloxi Kiwanis Club where Stewart was named a George F. Hixson
19 Fellow and presented a Legion of Honor award for 35 years of
20 Kiwanis membership. He has served the club as founding board
21 member, past President, Treasurer and Secretary, Kiwanian of the
22 Year, and has chaired many committees, especially membership
23 recruitment. He was named Outstanding Kiwanian of Division 14 for
24 the 1994-1995 year and has been District Convention Chairman
25 twice; and

26 WHEREAS, Bruce Stewart's commitment to the Mississippi Gulf
27 Coast Community include the following: Baptist Builder Mission

28 trips to the Ukraine, Argentina, Scotland and twice to Guatemala
29 to build churches; 16 years on the Biloxi Planning Commission;
30 Chairman of Biloxi-First, an educational scholarship foundation;
31 board member of the O'Keefe Foundation; interim Executive Director
32 of the Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce; host to five international
33 exchange students; active life member of American Legion and
34 Veterans of Foreign Wars; Outstanding Volunteer for the City of
35 Biloxi; Outstanding Citizen of the Year for the Biloxi Lion's
36 Club; member and usher at First Baptist Church of Biloxi;
37 Supervisor of the Habitat For Humanity House, built by his church;
38 member of the Biloxi Taxicab Board; Chairman of Area Council of
39 Boy's and Girl's Clubs of America; Spirit of the Coast Award from
40 Mississippi Coast Chamber, 1993; past board member of Harrison
41 County United Way, 1984, Salvation Army, Harrison County Cancer
42 Crusade; Good Neighbor Award from the National American Legion;
43 Biloxi Chamber of Commerce Director Emeritus Award 2003;
44 Southeastern Area Council Volunteer of the Year 2001; Volunteer of
45 the Year Award 2000; MS Area Council Volunteer of the Year 1999;
46 MS Area Council C.A.R.E. Award 1997; Norman Bess Award 1994;
47 Biloxi's Volunteer of the Year 1993; National Medallion 1989; Man
48 and Youth Award 1985; past President Biloxi Chamber of Commerce;
49 member of American Legion Post 33; past Chairman of Biloxi
50 Planning Commission; Chairman of Kiwanis Club Annual Kids Fishing
51 Rodeo; past Chairman Kiwanis Club Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo; past
52 Chairman Biloxi First "Educational Foundation"; past Chairman MS
53 Association of School Business Officials; Lions Club Outstanding
54 Citizen of Year 1980; Outstanding Young Man of Biloxi 1968; and
55 WHEREAS, Bruce is a very kind and gentle family man who is
56 always eager to help anyone in need. He has been instrumental in
57 the building of handicap ramps, Habitat for Humanity Homes and
58 churches, locally, and in faraway places such as Ukraine,
59 Argentina, Scotland and Guatemala; and

60 WHEREAS, Bruce Stewart and his wife, Wanda, are the parents
61 of six children and the grandparents of 10 children, and mentors
62 to many exchange students; and

63 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this most
64 extraordinary gentleman whose accomplishments have been
65 instrumental to the well-being of the Gulf Coast Community and to
66 the State of Mississippi:

67 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
68 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend Bruce Stewart of Biloxi,
69 Mississippi, for his commitment and his civic and charitable
70 contributions to the Gulf Coast Community and to the State of
71 Mississippi, and extend to him and his family the best wishes of
72 the Mississippi Senate in his future endeavors.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
74 Bruce Stewart and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.