

By: Representative Clarke

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 17

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE, CAREER AND  
2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF BRUCE PAYNE AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO  
3 HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Bruce Payne, known to many as the Dean of Gospel  
5 Radio, departed this earthly life on Tuesday, October 4, 2005, at  
6 the age of 75, to enter into eternal rest with his Heavenly  
7 Father, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and friends;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, a native of Vicksburg, Mr. Payne was a longtime  
10 radio broadcaster, community leader and mentor to hundreds of  
11 today's radio and television personalities; and

12 WHEREAS, a true humanitarian, Mr. Payne first came to public  
13 notice as assistant director of the YMCA in Vicksburg before  
14 venturing into radio broadcasting; and

15 WHEREAS, with a career spanning more than six decades, Mr.  
16 Payne, a champion of the underdog, gave his life to helping  
17 people, remaining in touch with the public and highly visible in  
18 church and educational activities, as well as civic and social  
19 community affairs; and

20 WHEREAS, the possessor of a genuine spirit, whose eagerness  
21 was only surpassed by his willingness to help, Mr. Payne was a  
22 founding member of the Salt and Pepper Men's Club and an ardent  
23 volunteer every Labor Day at the Community Welfare and Health  
24 Center, providing wholesome meals to residents; and

25 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the rivers of life to now  
26 stand on golden heavenly shores, the legacy of his memory will  
27 thrive in the hearts of his survivors: wife, Vivian; children,

28 Sharon Ann, Charles Dabney and Charita Lue Ellen; and a host of  
29 other relatives and friends, as well as the countless thousands of  
30 Mississippians whose lives he touched on gospel radio, who  
31 continue to benefit from his works; and

32 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
33 commend the life of such a remarkable and giving individual as Mr.  
34 Payne, whose life was a testament of faith and works:

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
36 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
37 commend and celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Bruce Payne and  
38 express deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his  
39 passing.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
41 furnished to the family of Mr. Payne and to the members of the  
42 Capitol Press Corps.