

By: Representatives Stevens, Whittington

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF MR. J.J.  
2 FERGUSON AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY UPON HIS  
3 PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Carroll County, Mississippi, lost a pillar of its  
5 community and the construction industry suffered a great loss on  
6 Friday, December 30, 2005, when Mr. J.J. Ferguson passed this  
7 life; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Ferguson is the father of a construction dynasty  
9 in Mississippi which began when he formed Ferguson Ready-Mix and  
10 later partnered with his brothers, W.F. and D.D. Ferguson, to  
11 create Ferguson Brothers Construction Company; and

12 WHEREAS, born with nothing in Carroll County, Mr. Ferguson  
13 told many stories of his childhood when he began working many  
14 hours plowing, picking and hauling cotton, and building "bridges  
15 out of matches and sticks" during his breaks with his brothers;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, at age 12, his interest in the construction industry  
18 peaked when his family moved to Grenada County as Highway 51 was  
19 being constructed; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Ferguson has been quoted to have said, "It  
21 seemed like a fascinating business. I always had a goal in life  
22 and I always...wanted to build roads and highways. And I decided  
23 that one day I would have a business of my own...in the  
24 construction industry"; and

25 WHEREAS, at the age of 16, Mr. Ferguson purchased his first  
26 dump truck for \$1,340.00; and

27           WHEREAS, because Mr. Ferguson was an integral part of the  
28 Carroll County road system and always underbid competitors in  
29 order to save the county money, the citizens of Carroll County  
30 vividly recall that Mr. Ferguson always remembered the "little  
31 guy"; and

32           WHEREAS, it was the compassionate sentiment, the kindly  
33 nature and the heart of gold possessed by Mr. Ferguson that  
34 endeared him to a great number of people in Carroll County; and

35           WHEREAS, determined to give back to his county, Mr. Ferguson,  
36 equipped with only an eighth grade education, worked more than 16  
37 hours a day to build the business that he loved, placing himself  
38 in a position to be an economic asset to the citizens of Carroll  
39 County; and

40           WHEREAS, prior to his earthly departure, he was the owner and  
41 president of J.J. Ferguson Sand and Gravel, Inc., and companies,  
42 employing more than 300 people in several varying locations,  
43 including Black Hawk, Winona, Greenwood, Inverness and Tom Nolan;  
44 and

45           WHEREAS, a free-hearted giver and humanitarian, Mr.  
46 Ferguson's dream touched lives of countless other families in the  
47 community, as he shared his vision and benevolence to his  
48 fellowman, affording them the opportunity to achieve their own  
49 dreams; and

50           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
51 the contributions made by respected citizens such as Mr. J.J.  
52 Ferguson, whose life was marked by the spirit of giving:

53           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
55 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the life of Mr. J.J. Ferguson  
56 and express our deepest sympathy to his family upon his passing.

57           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
58 furnished to the family of Mr. J.J. Ferguson and to the members of  
59 the Capitol Press Corps.