

By: Representative Broomfield

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE BRAVERY AND SELFLESSNESS OF JOE
2 BIGGS, SR., DURING HURRICANE KATRINA.

3 WHEREAS, Joe Biggs, Sr., of Escatawpa, Mississippi, leaving
4 his wife and children in a vacant gas station on higher ground,
5 set off wading in flood waters to save his neighborhood; and

6 WHEREAS, it was in those few hours on August 29, 2005, when
7 the residents did not know if the water would ever stop rising
8 that Biggs became a hero along Wisteria Drive; and

9 WHEREAS, combing the neighborhood in his 14-foot aluminum
10 skiff, Biggs rescued Emma Jean Madere and Stormy Madere, her
11 37-year-old mentally challenged daughter, who initially decided to
12 wait out the storm; and

13 WHEREAS, described as always having been a good neighbor,
14 this husband and father of six, has always been willing to lend a
15 helping hand to anyone in need; and

16 WHEREAS, wanting to ensure that everyone in his Mimosa
17 Park neighborhood was safe before he and his family left, Biggs,
18 convinced that someone needed to help his neighbors, decided it
19 should be him; and

20 WHEREAS, Biggs throughout his 15 years of helping his
21 neighbors was nothing short of helpful, even in the looming
22 dangers posed by Katrina's fury and aftermath, as he saved seven
23 people with his skiff; and

24 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
25 recognize such selfless acts of kindness as evidenced by a man of
26 Mr. Biggs' caliber:

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
28 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
29 commend the bravery and selflessness of Joe Biggs, Sr., during
30 Hurricane Katrina and extend our warmest and most heartfelt wishes
31 for the restoration of a life of normality.