

By: Representatives Stevens, Clark, Howell,
Smith (27th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 73

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MR. EDWARD EVANS FOR BEING THE FIRST
2 AFRICAN AMERICAN BUSINESS OWNER IN KOSCIUSKO, MISSISSIPPI.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Edward Evans, the former owner of Parker's Shoe
4 Shop, holds the honorable distinction of being the first African
5 American business owner in Kosciusko; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans, a native of the Maxville Community, which
7 is near Kosciusko, is a graduate of Spring Hill School; and

8 WHEREAS, before acquiring his shoe business, Mr. Evans served
9 in the United States Army where he was a rifleman in the
10 predominantly African American 92nd Infantry during World War II;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans bravely fought in the Euro-African Middle
13 Eastern Theater in October 1944 and was wounded by enemy fire in
14 May 1945; and

15 WHEREAS, due to valiant service for his country, Mr. Evans
16 was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans learned the art of repairing shoes from
18 his brother-in-law, Mr. Wesley White, after being discharged from
19 the Army; and

20 WHEREAS, after working for Parker's Shoe Shop for over 30
21 years, Mr. Evans bought the shop from the original owner, Mr.
22 Austin Parker, upon his retirement; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1972, Mr. Evans received a loan for \$20,000.00
24 from Merchants & Farmers Bank to purchase the shoe shop, and as a
25 testament of his discipline and work ethic, he paid off the loan
26 in only eight years; and

27 WHEREAS, after providing a much needed service to his
28 community in making sure that shoes were kept in good repair, Mr.
29 Evans sold the shoe shop in 1986; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Evans, after selling the shop, opened a dress
31 shop next to Parker's Shoe Shop with his wife of nearly 50 years,
32 the late Corrine Evans, who steadfastly supported him in all of
33 his endeavors; and

34 WHEREAS, in addition to the support he received from his late
35 wife, Mr. Evans continues to receive love and support from his
36 daughter, Shirley Lang, who received a strong work ethic and
37 Christian foundation from her parents; and

38 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
39 recognize and pay special tribute to a remarkable individual such
40 as Mr. Edward Evans, who is a business pioneer in Kosciusko as
41 well as an outstanding role model for his community at large:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
43 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
44 commend Mr. Edward Evans on his being an innovative business
45 pioneer and entrepreneur and extend to him our heartiest wishes
46 for success in all his future endeavors.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
48 furnished to Mr. Edward Evans and to the members of the Capitol
49 Press Corps.