

By: Representatives Perkins, Espy

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 38

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING SHERIEL FAYE
2 WALKER-PERKINS AS THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN AND FIRST FEMALE
3 MAYOR OF GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, on September 28, 2006, Mrs. Sheriel Faye
5 Walker-Perkins made history when she was certified as the first
6 African American and first female mayor of Greenwood, Mississippi;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Mayor Perkins struggled for 17 months, four
9 elections and a lengthy lawsuit before becoming certified by a
10 marginal win of 292 votes; and

11 WHEREAS, she has faithfully served as Greenwood's mayor since
12 taking the oath of office on September 29, 2006; and

13 WHEREAS, she is a native of Gulfport, Mississippi, and the
14 daughter of Mrs. Leona and the late Fred Harris, Sr.; and

15 WHEREAS, she shares the accomplishments in her life with her
16 distinguished husband, attorney and member of the Mississippi
17 House of Representatives, Willie J. Perkins, Sr., and their five
18 children: Willie James, Jr., Takiyah, Jamilah and Jamal Perkins
19 and Ashaki Osborne; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Perkins has achieved other firsts in her
21 lifetime as she was the first Black Assistant Vice President of
22 First Federal Savings and Loan Association; and

23 WHEREAS, before being elected mayor, she served on the
24 Greenwood City Council for Ward 4, serving 12 years unopposed,
25 with two terms as vice president until she decided to step down
26 and run for Mayor of Greenwood; and

27 WHEREAS, she is also very active in her community as a life
28 member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the National
29 Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP),
30 Greenwood Voters League and the Cotillion Federated Club; and

31 WHEREAS, she is a born-again Christian who is not ashamed to
32 tell the world about Jesus and actively serves the Lord at
33 Providence Missionary Baptist Church where she is President of the
34 Mission Society, a member of the Mother's Board and Youth Leader;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, as evidence of the adoration her community has for
37 her, she has received numerous appreciation awards from various
38 churches, community clubs and schools, including her most recent
39 honor as the recipient of the 2007 Magnolia Bar Harriet Tubman
40 Award; and

41 WHEREAS, in 2006, she was awarded the Martin Luther King Drum
42 Major Award from Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, the
43 Community Service Award from Wesley United Methodist Church as
44 part of their Heritage Celebration, the 2004/2005 Parent of the
45 Year for the Greenwood Public School District, the Greenwood
46 Voter's League Community Service Award and the Community Civic
47 Leadership Award from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; and

48 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend
49 excellence as evidenced by such outstanding Mississippians as
50 Mayor Sheriel Fay Walker-Perkins:

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
52 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
53 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mrs. Sheriel Faye
54 Walker-Perkins for making history by being elected the first
55 African American and first female Mayor of Greenwood, Mississippi.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
57 furnished to Mrs. Sheriel Walker-Perkins and to the members of the
58 Capitol Press Corps.