

By: Representative Reynolds

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 20

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MRS. MARGARET ROSS
2 UPON BEING NAMED A RECIPIENT OF *NEWSWEEK* MAGAZINE'S "GIVING BACK
3 AWARD" FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

4 WHEREAS, Margaret Ross, 73, of Oakland, Mississippi, was
5 recently designated one of 15 individuals to receive the "Giving
6 Back Award" presented by *Newsweek* magazine for her exceptional
7 volunteer service; and

8 WHEREAS, the unofficial social worker of Oakland, Mrs. Ross,
9 one of Mississippi's well-kept secrets has now been touted to the
10 world and listed among those who through bravery or generosity,
11 genius or passion, devote themselves to helping others, including
12 actor, Brad Pitt; and

13 WHEREAS, like most of Mississippi, a well-kept secret, Mrs.
14 Ross has been equated with blackberries, an old Sunday dress and a
15 president's wife, symbolizing the embodiment of Southern charm,
16 Christian service and the poise of style and grace; and

17 WHEREAS, just as memorable to her hometowners as the "Story
18 of the Broken Comb," which she carries affectionately, Mrs. Ross
19 readily and selflessly makes herself accessible to those in her
20 community who find themselves in need of a friend, a shoulder to
21 lean upon, a champion of their cause, or in some instances, even a
22 chauffeur; and

23 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross, a retired librarian by profession,
24 epitomizes the true meaning of Mississippi hospitality as she has
25 perfected the gift of discerning the needs of others and in turn
26 addressing those needs, as evidenced by her continued and lauded
27 service to her fellowman; and

28 WHEREAS, the extent of her giving includes, raising more than
29 \$3,000.00 to assist a Hurricane Katrina refugee's family, who
30 became stranded in Oakland; loading and driving elderly friends
31 and acquaintances to doctors' appointments; aiding in the prison
32 ministry; launching a two-year campaign to get social security
33 benefits for a dear friend suffering from a debilitating heart
34 disease; and aiding and counseling the homeless and victims of
35 crimes; and

36 WHEREAS, Oakland's goodwill ambassador, Mrs. Ross has turned
37 the bad times experienced by the citizens of her community into
38 good works, and shared the experiences with her family: late
39 husband, Richard Ross, Sr.; and children, Linda Ross Aldy, Janet
40 Ross Caulder, Carol Ross, Richard Ross, Jr., and Martha Smith; and

41 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
42 recognize and commend such an outstanding individual as Mrs. Ross,
43 whose life is a testament of platinum service to her community
44 that has brought national recognition to herself, her family and
45 to the State of Mississippi:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
48 commend and congratulate Mrs. Margaret Ross upon being named one
49 of 15 recipients of *Newsweek* magazine's "Giving Back Award" for
50 volunteer service and extend heartfelt wishes for continued
51 health, love and success in all her future endeavors.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
53 furnished to Mrs. Margaret Ross and to the members of the Capitol
54 Press Corps.