

By: Representative Eaton

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 78

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING HARMONY BAPTIST  
2 CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY, CELEBRATING ITS  
3 HISTORY OF SPIRITUAL EXCELLENCE.

4 WHEREAS, Harmony Baptist Church, in Mize, Mississippi, is the  
5 oldest church in Smith County being founded in 1832, and will  
6 celebrate its 175th anniversary on May 6, 2007; and

7 WHEREAS, located in the southern portion of Smith County, the  
8 land on which Harmony Baptist Church is situated was part of the  
9 Choctaw Indian Nation until the signing of the Treaty of Dancing  
10 Rabbit Creek in 1830, negotiated by representatives of President  
11 Andrew Jackson; and

12 WHEREAS, Harmony Baptist Church along with several other  
13 churches in Smith County endured the turmoil of the Civil War, at  
14 a time when there was a shortage of preachers of the Gospel in the  
15 area due largely in part to the pastors becoming military  
16 chaplains; and

17 WHEREAS, having always been noted for its giving to those in  
18 need, Harmony Baptist's early records indicate a December 1918  
19 offering of \$7.75 being given to the Baptist Orphanage, which is  
20 now known as the Baptist Children's Village; and

21 WHEREAS, with its rich history passed down through generation  
22 after generation of congregations Harmony Baptist, as the oldest  
23 church in Smith County, continues to serve as refuge for the  
24 weary, a pillar of strength and a safe haven for the spiritually  
25 downtrodden; and

26 WHEREAS, affiliated with the Smith County Baptist Church  
27 Association, the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern

28 Baptist Convention, Harmony Baptist Church built its present  
29 building and sanctuary in 1927, and paid it off in 1928, one year  
30 after its completion; and

31 WHEREAS, Harmony Baptist Church has been a beacon in the  
32 community, having contributed both spiritually and culturally to  
33 its community by promoting the love of God, self and education;  
34 and

35 WHEREAS, with excitement, humility and awe, Harmony Baptist  
36 Church looks back upon its past achievements, and with sincere  
37 thankfulness acknowledges God's grace and love, which has carried  
38 the church triumphantly throughout its 175-year legacy; and

39 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
40 recognize outstanding and contributory religious institutions such  
41 as Harmony Baptist Church, which continues to be a vital part of  
42 Smith County and the Mize Community:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
44 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
45 commend and congratulate the diligence of the pastors and members  
46 of Harmony Baptist Church upon the occasion of the church's 175th  
47 year anniversary and extend warmest wishes for continued  
48 prosperity, spiritual growth and success.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
50 furnished to Harmony Baptist Church and to the members of the  
51 Capitol Press Corps.