

By: Representative Bounds

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 84

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY AND IMPACT OF THE
2 NESHOPA COUNTY FAIR AND EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS UPON ITS 118TH
3 ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR 2007.

4 WHEREAS, this year, 2007, marks the 118th anniversary of the
5 Neshoba County Fair, whose rich history entails livestock and
6 produce showcases, arts, crafts and handiwork and the air of
7 politicians politicking around the old camp grounds; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1889, a group of local farmers attended the
9 "Patron's Union" in Lake, Mississippi, where farm produce and
10 animals were shown, which was ultimately arranged into a picnic in
11 the Coldwater community of Neshoba County where they showed farm
12 animals, farm produce and women's handiwork; and

13 WHEREAS, after two successful picnics, the fair, originally
14 called the "Neshoba County Stock and Agricultural Fair," was
15 organized in 1891 when officers and a board of directors were
16 elected; and

17 WHEREAS, through the years, many staples of today's fair
18 remain which were part of the early founders' vision of a true
19 county fair and remains a haven for summer gatherings and reunions
20 for families throughout the United States; and

21 WHEREAS, the 600 individually owned cabins on the grounds
22 represent dwellings which have family roots dating back to the
23 first fair and have been passed down for generations; and

24 WHEREAS, the Neshoba County Fair boasts Mississippi's only
25 licensed horse-racing track, where harness and running horse races
26 have been held since 1894; and

27 WHEREAS, agricultural and home exhibits remain a large part
28 of the fair's pulse, in addition to being lauded today as
29 Mississippi's must-attend political forum for candidates seeking
30 office; and

31 WHEREAS, each year since 1896 all statewide, district and
32 local officials and candidates have spoken during the annual
33 Neshoba County Fair; and

34 WHEREAS, designated as a Historical District in 1980 and
35 having the "Neshoba County Fair Association, Inc." and
36 "Mississippi's Giant Houseparty" registered as national trademarks
37 in 1983, the fair has been named as one of the Southeastern
38 Tourism's Top 20 events on numerous occasions and it has been
39 featured in national publications and media productions; and

40 WHEREAS, as a tourism event, the Neshoba County Fair
41 generates significant resources for the local and state economies
42 and remains the icon for which Philadelphia and Neshoba County are
43 recognized; and

44 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
45 commend and recognize events which represent a part of
46 Mississippi's proud culture and heritage as the Neshoba County
47 Fair, which has garnered national acclaim and vested the citizens
48 of Neshoba County and the entire State of Mississippi with a great
49 sense of pride:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
51 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
52 recognize the history and impact of the Neshoba County Fair,
53 extend congratulations upon the occasion of its 118th year
54 anniversary and express our fondest hope for its continued success
55 in all its future endeavors.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
57 furnished to the Board of Directors of the Neshoba County Fair and
58 to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.