

By: Representative Nicholson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 90

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MR. CHARLES DEWITT
2 WILLIAMS ON HIS SERVICE TO THIS COUNTRY AND FOR BEING THE LAST
3 SURVIVING PRISONER OF WAR IN NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Charles D. Williams is the last surviving
5 prisoner of war (POW) from World War II residing in Newton County,
6 Mississippi; and

7 WHEREAS, born on February 2, 1918, Mr. Williams, along with
8 several siblings, was reared with love by his parents, the late
9 James Worth Williams and Lula Annie Williams; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams grew up in Little Rock, Mississippi,
11 and graduated in 1935 from Beulah Hubbard High School; and

12 WHEREAS, after high school, Mr. Williams served in the United
13 States Army from March 7, 1936, until March 6, 1939, where his
14 salary was \$30.00 per month after being promoted to Private First
15 Class and becoming a 6th Class Specialist; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams bravely decided to enlist again in the
17 Army in November 1942, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and he
18 became a member of the 413th Infantry Regiment L Company, 104th
19 Infantry Division (Timberwolves); and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams valiantly served in Northern France,
21 Belgium and Holland before being captured on November 23, 1944, in
22 Germany, and he was held in the following war camps for 155 days
23 in Germany: Stalag 12A in Limburg, Stalag 3A in Lukenwall, Stalag
24 3B in Furstenburg and Stalag 483C in Ludwigfield; and

25 WHEREAS, despite the harshness of being held as a POW, Mr.
26 Williams bravely survived his imprisonment and was released on
27 April 26, 1945, and returned to the United States; and

28 WHEREAS, after returning to the United States, Mr. Williams
29 experienced the joy of seeing his lovely wife, Katherine Marjoree,
30 and, for the first time, their nine-month-old daughter, Sammie
31 Kate, and afterwards, Mr. Williams was discharged on November 7,
32 1945, as a Master Sergeant; and

33 WHEREAS, in addition to being discharged as a Master
34 Sergeant, Mr. Williams was awarded the following: the Good
35 Conduct Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Theater of
36 Operations Medal with two Bronze Stars; and

37 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
38 recognize heroic Mississippians such as Mr. Charles D. Williams
39 who willingly served this country to protect this great nation and
40 to help spread peace across the world:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
42 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
43 recognize and commend the service of Mr. Charles D. Williams, who
44 is the last surviving POW of World War II from Newton County,
45 Mississippi, and extend best wishes for continued success in all
46 of his future endeavors.

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