

By: Representatives Clarke, Wooten, Baker (8th), Banks, Blackmon, Bondurant, Brown, Broomfield, Buck (72nd), Burnett, Calhoun, Cockerham, Coleman (65th), Currie, Dickson, Ellis, Formby, Fredericks, Gibbs, Gunn, Hamilton (109th), Hamilton (6th), Harrison, Holland, Jones (111th), Lane, Malone, Martinson, McGee, Middleton, Moak, Read, Rogers (14th), Shows, Stevens, Stringer, Sullivan, Thomas, Upshaw, Ward, Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 72

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING BORNFREE OF
2 MISSISSIPPI, INC., ON THE CELEBRATION OF ITS 15th ANNIVERSARY.

3 WHEREAS, BornFree of Mississippi, Inc., a private nonprofit
4 organization whose mission is to provide an umbrella of support
5 services to pregnant and parenting addicted mothers and their
6 young children, is celebrating its 15th anniversary in the year
7 2011; and

8 WHEREAS, formally created in 1994, BornFree of Mississippi,
9 Inc., came to be from the work of a coalition of public and
10 private agencies, nonprofit entities, corporate leaders and
11 private citizens first brought together by Representative Alyce
12 Clarke in 1991 to address her concerns for the right of babies to
13 be born alcohol and drug free; and

14 WHEREAS, it is often fondly remembered that as the new
15 organization came to fruition and Representative Clarke sought a
16 good and catchy name for it, Sue King Tucker, then Committee
17 Assistant to the Appropriations Committee of the Mississippi House
18 of Representatives, suggested to Representative Clarke, "You've
19 been running around here for the longest time saying every child
20 should be born drug free: What about 'Born Free'?"; and

21 WHEREAS, because babies born to mothers addicted to alcohol
22 and other drugs have a greater risk of being born too small, too
23 soon and very sick, BornFree of Mississippi, Inc., working in
24 close partnership with Catholic Charities, Inc., provides
25 treatment services to clients at the BornFree Residential
26 Treatment program and the Region I Mental Health facility at
27 Sunflower Landing in Dublin, Mississippi; and



28 WHEREAS, both residential programs, which receive funding
29 through Catholic Charities from the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug
30 Abuse Services of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health,
31 offer each pregnant and parenting mom the opportunity to have her
32 children up to age five accompany her as she seeks treatment for
33 her addiction; and

34 WHEREAS, since the inception of BornFree of Mississippi,
35 Inc., well over 110 drug free babies have been born free and given
36 the gift of a healthier life through the treatment of their
37 mothers for drug and alcohol addiction during pregnancy; and

38 WHEREAS, in addition to the help given to pregnant and
39 parenting moms, BornFree of Mississippi, Inc., provides continuing
40 professional education offerings and training opportunities for
41 medical, social work and addiction specialists and resources and
42 information to families seeking help for a loved one; and

43 WHEREAS, acting on behalf of those in our state whose cries
44 for help might otherwise remain unheard, BornFree of Mississippi,
45 Inc., has clearly demonstrated throughout its 15-year history that
46 it truly believes that "Every baby has the right to be born free
47 and live free in a family free of alcohol and drugs, and further,
48 that babies have the right to a family able to provide safety,
49 housing, education, quality of life and loving support to allow
50 each child to reach his or her highest potential.":

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
52 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
53 commend and congratulate BornFree of Mississippi, Inc., on the
54 celebration of its 15th anniversary and express to all those
55 affiliated with BornFree sincerest gratitude for their services.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
57 furnished to BornFree of Mississippi, Inc., and to the members of
58 the Capitol Press Corps.

