

By: Representatives Denny, Young, Bell
(65th), Sykes

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, LEGACY AND
2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. BERT CASE AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY
3 TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, "To everything there is a season, and a time to
5 every purpose under the Heaven," and as such, Mr. Bert Case has
6 made life's final transition to heavenly reward, rendering great
7 sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the Jackson community
9 lost a wonderful friend and great newsman on January 28, 2016,
10 with the passing of Mr. Bert Case, who was born on January 30,
11 1939, to the late J.W. Case and Eva Fulmer Case, in Jackson; and

12 WHEREAS, after graduating from Murrah High School in 1957,
13 Mr. Case began his journey in broadcasting at the campus radio
14 station at the University of Mississippi, and after serving as an
15 United States Air Force Information Officer at Andrews Air Force
16 Base in Maryland, he returned to Mississippi in 1965 and worked as
17 a news director and anchor for WJTV-Channel 12 before moving on to



18 WAPT and in May 1974 to WLBT, where he worked for four decades;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, in addition to his distinction of having worked at
21 all three Jackson stations, he also had the most distinctive voice
22 and sendoff, with his closing signature so recognized that many
23 Mississippians greeted him with the phrase; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Case had a knack for finding the right balance
25 of edge, seriousness and humor when telling a story, and this
26 trait allowed him to cover serious stories involving public
27 interest in a way that captivated his viewers and made them care
28 about the subject matter; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Case covered every major story in Mississippi
30 either as a news director, reporter or producer for 50 years, with
31 some of his most well known stories including his coverage of
32 Hurricanes Camille and Katrina and former Governor Kirk Fordice;
33 and

34 WHEREAS, while everyone will have their own "Berrrrt Case"
35 story that they will remember, one story that will certainly stick
36 out in everyone's mind is the time that Mr. Case had to fight off
37 a pit bull, and even though he thought he had done everything
38 wrong, he later found out that people use that video to teach
39 people the right thing to do if a dog charges you; and

40 WHEREAS, due to his ability to tell the news in a fair and
41 inspiring way, Mr. Case was awarded the Distinguished Civilian
42 Service Medal by then Governor Haley Barbour in 2004, which is the



43 highest award given to a civilian by the State of Mississippi, and
44 was also inducted into the Mississippi Associated Press
45 Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in the same year; and

46 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Mr. Case was awarded many
47 other honors, including the 2001-2002 Silver M for Journalism from
48 the University of Mississippi, the 2006 Associated Press
49 Broadcasters Association Howard Lett Newsperson of the Year and
50 the 2014 Jackson Police Department Meritorious Service Award; and

51 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to reunite
52 with those who answered God's summons to life eternal and now
53 beckon his arrival to the celestial shores of Heaven's grandeur,
54 the legacy of Mr. Bert Case will continue in the memories of his
55 survivors, including: his loving wife, Mary Wieden Case;
56 daughters, Valerie Case and Valinda Case Cochella; granddaughter,
57 Bellina Cochella; his beloved Jack Russell terrier, Heidi; and a
58 host of other relatives and friends; and

59 WHEREAS, respected and esteemed by his colleagues and fellow
60 Mississippians, Mr. Case forever impacted the Jackson community
61 and set the bar for excellence in the newsroom; and

62 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend the
63 life of such an inspiring and professional Jacksonian, such as Mr.
64 Bert Case, whose memory will be cherished in the community for
65 years to come:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
67 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING



68 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the life
69 and legacy of Mr. Bert Case and extend sincere and deepest
70 sympathy to his family and friends upon his passing.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
72 furnished to the family of Mr. Bert Case and to the members of the
73 Capitol Press Corps.

