

By: Representatives Bain, Arnold, Boyd,
Turner

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER
2 AND MERITORIOUS LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE THAT THE HONORABLE JUDGE
3 JOHN ANDREW HATCHER, JR., PROVIDED AS THE CHANCERY COURT JUDGE OF
4 THE FIRST CHANCERY COURT DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI, PLACE 1, UPON
5 THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

6 WHEREAS, the Honorable John Andrew Hatcher, Jr., Chancery
7 Court Judge of the First Chancery Court District of Mississippi,
8 Place 1, which covers Alcorn, Tishomingo, Prentiss, Lee, Union,
9 Pontotoc, Monroe and Itawamba Counties, retires from the bench
10 after more than 11 years of judicial service to the great State of
11 Mississippi and its citizens; and

12 WHEREAS, born on November 23, 1948, in Jackson, Mississippi,
13 Judge Hatcher graduated in 1966 from Drew High School in Sunflower
14 County, Mississippi, furthered his education at Delta State,
15 graduating in 1969, and received his Juris Doctorate in December
16 1972, from the University of Mississippi School of Law; and

17 WHEREAS, John Andrew Hatcher, Jr., esquire, began the general
18 practice of law in Booneville, Mississippi, in November 1973, and



19 from 1975 until 1976, he taught a paralegal program at Northeast
20 Mississippi Community College; and

21 WHEREAS, motivated to perform public service, Judge Hatcher
22 served as the vice chairman of the Mississippi Council on Children
23 from 1977 until 1979, the Housing Specialist with the Governor's
24 Office of Federal, State and Local Programs, Division of Housing
25 Coordination from 1978 until 1979 and the Director of Yocona Area
26 Council of Boy Scouts of America from 1979 until 1980; and

27 WHEREAS, Judge Hatcher has a true passion for advocating on
28 behalf of his community, as he served as the county prosecutor for
29 Prentiss County, Mississippi, from 1980 until 1995, the city
30 prosecutor for Baldwyn, Mississippi, and the city attorney for
31 Marietta, Mississippi, from 1991 until 2006, and city attorney for
32 Farmington, Mississippi, from 1999 until 2006; and

33 WHEREAS, in 1996, Judge Hatcher was the founding
34 incorporator, director and secretary of Booneville-Prentiss County
35 Parks, Inc. (Kids Town), and he currently serves as the founding
36 incorporator, director and secretary of Brice's Crossroads
37 National Battlefield Commission, Inc., and the founding
38 incorporator, director and president of Lower Anderson Owners'
39 Association, Inc.; and

40 WHEREAS, because of his expertise, Judge Hatcher has served
41 in many leadership roles throughout his community, including
42 president of the First Judicial District Bar Association, chairman



43 of the Booneville Ward System Council and secretary of the
44 Mississippi Conference of Chancery Court Judges; and

45 WHEREAS, since 1973, Judge Hatcher has been a beacon of hope
46 and an institution of knowledge and prosperity to all those in and
47 around his community, and he has been active in providing public
48 services, forming and representing rural water associations, fire
49 departments and sewer services; and

50 WHEREAS, in addition to his role as legal eagle, Judge
51 Hatcher has been a member of Booneville First United Methodist
52 Church since 1975, serving on the administrative board, the
53 finance committee, and currently on the pastor-parish relations
54 committee; and

55 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Judge Hatcher has received a
56 shower of loving and unwavering support from his wife of 49 years,
57 the wonderful Kathy Reynolds Hatcher; and

58 WHEREAS, after 11 years of judicial service to the people of
59 the First Chancery Court District of Mississippi, retirement will
60 surely leave an insatiable void for upholding the rule of law and
61 mingling with Mississippi's finest in the heart of Judge Hatcher,
62 but he is overjoyed to relax and reflect on the countless number
63 of remarkable people that have touched his life throughout his
64 11-year career as the Chancery Court Judge of the First Chancery
65 Court District of Mississippi, Place 1; and

66 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
67 and commend the tireless devotion to the betterment of Mississippi



68 and honor the ardent vow to impeccable public service that Judge
69 John Andrew Hatcher, Jr., bestowed to the citizens of Mississippi
70 as Chancery Court Judge of the First Chancery Court District of
71 Mississippi, Place 1:

72 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
73 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
74 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the distinguished career and
75 meritorious leadership and service that the Honorable Judge John
76 Andrew Hatcher, Jr., provided as the Chancery Court Judge of the
77 First Chancery Court District of Mississippi, Place 1, upon the
78 occasion of his retirement, and extend sincere wishes for
79 continued success and joy in the lighter days ahead.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
81 furnished to Judge Hatcher and to the members of the Capitol Press
82 Corps.

