

By: Representative Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 72

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MR. BOB WEDGEWORTH FOR HIS
2 DISTINGUISHED CAREER, MERITORIOUS LEADERSHIP AND TREMENDOUS
3 SERVICE UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, after numerous years of service and dedication to
5 the State of Mississippi and to the United States, Mr. Bob
6 Wedgeworth retired from his position as the Director of Operations
7 and as the 911 Coordinator of Rankin County Emergency Operations
8 in January 2018; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Wedgeworth, after graduating from Florence High
10 School, joined the United States Marine Corps in 1981, and
11 attended basic training in San Diego, California, and after
12 completing basic training, he completed infantry training at Camp
13 Pendleton, where he graduated at the top of his class and was
14 awarded Marine Security detail in Keflavik, Iceland, where he
15 continued to serve for another year; and

16 WHEREAS, upon returning to the United States, Mr. Wedgeworth
17 was assigned to the 2nd Battalion 6th Marines in Camp Lejeune, and



18 then he transferred and departed for duty in Beirut, Lebanon, in
19 1983, where he served during the first terrorist attack against
20 the United States in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy, and when he
21 returned to the United States, he and his unit supported
22 "Operation Urgent Fury" in Grenada and also supported security
23 operations in Lebanon after the Barracks Bombing, and at the
24 completion of "Operation Urgent Fury," Mr. Wedgeworth's unit was
25 reassembled and he was transferred to the 1st Battalion 6th
26 Marines where he remained until his honorable discharge in August
27 1984; and

28 WHEREAS, during his service in the United States Marine
29 Corps, Mr. Wedgeworth was meritoriously promoted and awarded
30 several honors, including the Meritorious Mast, awarded by the
31 Commanding General of the 2nd Marine Division Navy Unit
32 Commendation; the Combat Action Ribbon; the Sea Service Deployment
33 with Bronze Star; the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal; the Armed
34 Forces Expeditionary Medal; the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal;
35 the Multi-National Peace Keepers Ribbon; and the French
36 Fourragere; and

37 WHEREAS, Mr. Wedgeworth began his career in public safety in
38 1987 when he joined the Ridgeland Fire Department, and in 1989, he
39 returned to Rankin County and served at the Richland Fire
40 Department where he held various ranks, from Firefighter and
41 Driver Operator to Shift Coordinator and Training Officer; and



42 WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Wedgeworth was elected as Post
43 Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5048, where he
44 still serves today, and from 2003 to 2008 he served as a Senior
45 Instructor at the Mississippi State Fire Academy, and he was
46 deployed three times in 2005 during the aftermath of Hurricane
47 Katrina, where he functioned as the State Fire Academy Teams
48 Operations Officer; and

49 WHEREAS, Mr. Wedgeworth was elected in 2005 as Alderman for
50 the City of Richland, and in 2008 he began 10 years of service as
51 Director of Operations and as 911 Coordinator for Rankin County
52 Emergency Operations, and was the first County Coordinator to
53 develop and implement Multi-Jurisdictional Response Teams as well
54 as Multi-Jurisdictional 911 Systems, and throughout his career in
55 emergency operations, Mr. Wedgeworth faced dangerous situations
56 each day that demanded he put his life on the line, but each time
57 the call came, he fearlessly and bravely rushed into perilous
58 predicaments and responded to a variety of events, including
59 terrorist attacks, fires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, emergency
60 medical incidents, plane crashes and other catastrophes and
61 emergency events; and

62 WHEREAS, Mr. Wedgeworth has been an exceptional director and
63 meritorious leader to the people of Rankin County, and his
64 indomitable grit, dexterous abilities and passionate determination
65 will be dearly missed by all of his colleagues and others who were



66 fortunate to have the opportunity to work with him and experience
67 his greatness; and

68 WHEREAS, outside of his professional career, Mr. Wedgeworth
69 is married to his wife Kelly, and they have three sons, Jeremy,
70 Caleb and Ty, and on August 21, 2017, they welcomed the first girl
71 to the family, their granddaughter Savannah Lee; and

72 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to pay tribute
73 to great, heroic Mississippians such as Bob Wedgeworth, who have
74 dedicated their lives to preserving the freedoms that we enjoy
75 each day and whose outstanding leadership, dauntless fortitude and
76 unwavering duty to save the lives of the people of this great
77 Magnolia State will always be remembered:

78 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
79 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
80 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mr. Bob Wedgeworth for his
81 distinguished career, meritorious leadership and outstanding
82 service upon the occasion of his retirement, and extend sincere
83 wishes for his continued success in the lighter days ahead.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
85 furnished to Mr. Bob Wedgeworth and to the members of the Capitol
86 Press Corps.

