MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

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By: Representative Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DISTINGUISHED AND 2 MERITORIOUS SERVICE THAT CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JOHN K. CARSON 3 RENDERED TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND CONGRATULATING HIM 4 UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, upon providing more than 33 years of selfless and 6 meritorious service to the United States as a member of the 7 nation's elite fraternity of Armed Forces personnel, Chief Master 8 Sergeant John K. Carson retired from the Mississippi Air National 9 Guard, effective November 30, 2017; and

10 WHEREAS, born on July 23, 1961, at Bergstrom Air Force Base, in Austin, Texas, into the military familial union of his parents 11 12 Kyle and Brenda Carson, a life of service to mankind was 13 inexplicably and innately embedded into the genetic makeup of John 14 K. Carson, a 1979 Wingfield High School graduate and 1989 bachelor of science degree recipient in psychology from the University of 15 Southern Mississippi, who entered into the Mississippi Air 16 17 National Guard on June 4, 1984, beginning his esteemed military career as an In-flight Medical Service Specialist utilizing 18 various military and civilian airframes, and continually 19 87 ~ OFFICIAL ~ N1/2H. C. R. No. 18/HR31/R2006

distinguishing himself in the performance of outstanding service to this nation while assigned to the 183d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, wherein he scaled the ranks of meritorious promotion to achieve the rank of Chief Master Sergeant, Superintendent, on May 14, 2011; and

25 WHEREAS, as a seasoned flight examiner, Chief Carson's superior leadership and ceaseless efforts resulted in major 26 27 contributions to the total force aeromedical mission, amassing 28 more than 914 flight hours and 27 combat hours during 452 sorties on multiple airframes, including the C-141, C-9, C-130, KC-135 and 29 30 C-17, where his display of ingenuity and untiring devotion enabled him to serve as instructor, examiner, First Sergeant and 31 eventually Squadron Superintendent, always leading by example and 32 cultivating a penchant for balancing qualifications with assigned 33 34 squadron duties; and

35 WHEREAS, his selfless dedication and exceptional skills 36 remained an essential component of his adept ability to enable each unit under his command to perform their worldwide aeromedical 37 38 mission in support of the several major operations over the span 39 of his 33-year career, including: Operation Desert Shield/Storm 40 (December 1990 to March 1991); Noble Eagle, a two-month detail following the September 11th attack in 2001; Operation Enduring 41 Freedom (January 2013 to June 2013), serving as Superintendent for 42 Kandahar Air Field and Camp Bastion, Afghanistan; Inherent Resolve 43 and Operation Freedom's Sentinel (September 2014 to January 2015), 44

45 in the wake of the bombing in Syria, where he served as both 46 Squadron Superintendent and First Sergeant at Al Udeid Air Base, 47 Qatar; and the provision of humanitarian support for several 48 hurricanes; and

49 WHEREAS, equipped with a wealth of experience acquired from 50 seven years of service as the most prestigious enlisted officer in the 183d beginning in 2011, Chief Carson has zealously led his 51 52 unit in efforts of promoting mission effectiveness, morale, health 53 welfare, discipline and effective utilization of assigned 54 personnel, which greatly attributed to the unit's receipt of 55 "EXCELLENT" and "EFFECTIVE" results on the 2012 Operational 56 Readiness Inspection and the 2014 Unit Effectiveness Inspection; 57 and

58 WHEREAS, in addition to rendering valiant patriotic service 59 to the Armed Forces extension of the Mississippi National Guard, 60 Chief Carson, simultaneously devoted more than 25 years of service 61 to the State of Mississippi, where his professionalism, camaraderie and efficiency of tasks were provided to the 62 63 Department of Human Services as eligibility work in 1989, as well 64 as an EMS Network Administrator for the State Department of Health 65 and the Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board, before joining the 66 Legislative Budget Office in 1996, wherefrom he retired in 2014 as Senior Systems Analyst with 18 years of laudable service; and 67 68 WHEREAS, a three-time recipient of the 172d Airlift Wing First Sergeant of the Year recognition in 2003, 2007 and 2008, 69

70 Chief Carson's venerated career has culminated in his receipt of 71 numerous recognitions and decorations including: the Meritorious 72 Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters; the Air Force 73 Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; the Combat Readiness 74 Medal with seven oak leaf clusters; the Humanitarian Service 75 Medal; the Mississippi Magnolia Medal; the Mississippi Service 76 School Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters; the Mississippi 77 Emergency Service Medal and the Louisiana Emergency Service Medal; 78 and

WHEREAS, Chief Carson, a community-oriented individual, 79 80 prides himself on his greatest personal accomplishment, his family: wife of almost 32 years, Merry Helgeson Carson, and sons 81 82 Timothy and Daniel, who have supported and inspired him in all of 83 his military and civilian endeavors; Chief Carson is a faithful 84 member of Morrison Heights Baptist Church, where he is a deacon 85 in rotation, as well as devoting his time to volunteering with 86 Kids AT, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Boy Scouts of America Troop 87 345, where he served as Assistant Scoutmaster; and

88 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize 89 the singularly distinctive career and accomplishments of such an 90 immensely gallant individual as Chief Master Sergeant Carson, 91 whose service to these United States and its global allies have 92 culminated in a long and distinguished career and reflect great 93 credit upon himself, the Air National Guard and the United States 94 Air Force:

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95 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF 96 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING 97 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the distinguished and 98 meritorious service that Chief Master Sergeant John K. Carson 99 rendered to the United States of America, congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement and extend best wishes for 100 101 continued success in all of his future endeavors while enjoying 102 the lighter years of life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to Chief Master Sergeant John K. Carson and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

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commend distinguished career upon the occasion
of his retirement.