

By: Representative Horne

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ESTEEMED CAREER AND PUBLIC  
2 SERVICE OF ASSISTANT CHIEF RONALD LELAND "R.W." WILLIAMS RENDERED  
3 TO THE CITIZENS OF MERIDIAN AND LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,  
4 AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, after nearly 43 years of dedicated and zealous  
6 service to public safety Ronald Leland "R.W." Williams retired his  
7 uniform and water hose to the closet of the National Guard Base  
8 Fire Department in Meridian on June 30, 2017, after having first  
9 begun his prestigious career as a rookie fireman with the Meridian  
10 Fire Department on December 18, 1974; and

11 WHEREAS, a native of Meridian, born March 17, 1954, Williams  
12 graduated with the Meridian High School Class of 1972 and later  
13 matriculated at Meridian Community College before immersing  
14 himself in the throws of public safety and making an esteemed  
15 livelihood by rendering services to those most in need during  
16 times of critical distress; and

17 WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, Mr. Williams proffered the  
18 City of Meridian and its citizens provident public safety as  
19 Captain, after having assumed the post upon his meritorious



20 scaling of the promotion ranks, garnering much admiration and  
21 respect from his comrades, which never waivered from the date of  
22 his initial hire with the department until his decision to  
23 conclude his prestigious career as a municipal firefighter on  
24 December 7, 1994; and

25 WHEREAS, in 1985, "R.W." became a member of a prestigious  
26 firemen's fraternity as one of only approximately 1,300  
27 firefighters in the state to complete one of the most rigorous  
28 firefighter training courses in the nation to become a certified  
29 Mississippi Smoke Diver, a program which has tested the grit and  
30 fortitude of more than 20,000 potential candidates since its  
31 inception in 1975 by the Mississippi Fire Academy, which has  
32 separated men from heroes; and

33 WHEREAS, equally committed to the service and protected  
34 liberties of this state and nation, Captain Williams worked  
35 simultaneously, for four months, beginning August 1, 1994, as a  
36 firefighter at Key Field Air National Guard Base, which serves as  
37 home of the 186th Air Refueling Wing of the Mississippi Air  
38 National Guard; and

39 WHEREAS, again having gained the respect of his peers,  
40 colleagues and commanding officers, Williams' ethical morale,  
41 character and rapport advanced his opportunity for meritorious  
42 leadership promotion, which eventually led to his tapping as  
43 Assistant Chief for the base fire department; and



44 WHEREAS, during the course of his 23-year career at Key  
45 Field, Assistant Chief Williams was selected to serve on the elite  
46 Mississippi State Search and Rescue Task Force, which provides  
47 highly specialized, all-hazards response capability and services  
48 to local jurisdictions overwhelmed by natural and man-made  
49 disasters; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
51 commend the remarkable career and public service of such a  
52 remarkable, selfless and knowledgeable individual as Assistant  
53 Chief Williams, who has dedicated more than four decades of his  
54 life to promoting and upholding the principles of public safety to  
55 the State of Mississippi to maximize the benefits and protection  
56 of its citizens:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
58 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
59 commend the esteemed career and public service that Assistant  
60 Chief Ronald Leland "R.W." Williams rendered to the citizens of  
61 Mississippi, congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement  
62 from public service and extend warmest wishes for continued  
63 success in all of his future endeavors.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
65 furnished to Assistant Chief Ronald Leland "R.W." Williams and to  
66 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

