

By: Representative Crawford

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
2 LEGACY OF DR. PATRICK LOUIS PIERCE.

3 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To
4 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under
5 the Heaven," and as such, on Tuesday, July 31, 2018, the
6 immaculate author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the
7 mortal presence of dearly beloved, Dr. Patrick Louis Pierce, to
8 eternal rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and
9 friends; and

10 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach and the State of Mississippi
11 lost a community leader, revered ophthalmologist and their "Trout
12 King" with the passing of Dr. Pierce, who was born in
13 Fayetteville, Arkansas, to Clarence and Vertice Pierce in 1935;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Biloxi High School attended the University of
16 Southern Mississippi before getting his medical degree from the
17 University of Tennessee Medical School at the young age of 22; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Pierce traveled to the beautiful country of



19 Panama to complete his internship at Gorgas Hospital in the Canal
20 Zone, but while he was there, he embarked upon more than just his
21 medical career, as he met the love of his life, Martita, and the
22 two began a life together full of adventure and bliss; and

23 WHEREAS, before settling in the Long Beach community, Dr.
24 Pierce and Mrs. Pierce lived in Turkey, where Dr. Pierce served as
25 a physician for the Medical Air Force, and in New Orleans, where
26 he completed his residency in ophthalmology at Tulane University
27 Medical School; and

28 WHEREAS, for 30 years, Dr. Pierce saw patients at the Pierce
29 Eye Clinic on Pass Road in Gulfport, and for 30 years, his
30 patients received the utmost care and attention, with a little
31 humor mixed in; and

32 WHEREAS, in addition to his eye practice, Dr. Pierce also
33 served as the chief of staff at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport and
34 on the board of the Mississippi Health Care Commission, and he
35 also hosted an annual Mass of Anointing of the Sick at his home
36 for St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and enjoyed helping out
37 any local charities he could; and

38 WHEREAS, a kind, loving and happy man, when Dr. Pierce was
39 not serving the people of his community at his eye clinic, you
40 could find him quail hunting, spending time with friends at the
41 Gulfport Yacht Club, volunteering with the Gulf Coast Carnival
42 Association or fishing for trout on the "Skip Jack II"; and



43 WHEREAS, a compassionate physician, an admired angler, and a
44 beloved father, grandfather and friend, Dr. Patrick Louis Pierce
45 was the epitome of character, good will and generosity, and
46 through his sincere heart and undeniable energy, he touched the
47 lives of all those who crossed his charming path, and his warm
48 hugs and bright smile will be forever cherished by his family,
49 friends, former patients, church friends and others who knew him
50 and experienced his greatness; and

51 WHEREAS, the memory of Dr. Pierce, a man held in the highest
52 regard by friends and family as an inspiring and precious gift
53 from God, will continue to refresh the hearts and memories of his
54 beloved survivors: his wonderful wife of 58 years, Martita
55 Pierce; his daughters, Lisa Guyton, Sandra Boddie, Stella Wolf and
56 Vanessa Rodriguez; the sons-in-law that he said made up for having
57 four girls, Jimmy Guyton, George Boddie, David Wolf and Jose
58 Rodriguez; grandchildren, Alex Guyton, Jennifer Ruth Guyton,
59 Nathan Boddie, Cliff Guyton, Sarah Boddie Robbins, Patrick Pierce
60 Boddie, Daniel Wolf, Isabel Wolf, Victoria Wolf, Sebastian
61 Rodriguez, Isaac Rodriguez, Louis Pierce Guyton and Lily Robbins;
62 and a host of other relatives and friends; and

63 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
64 recognize and honor the lives of fine Mississippians, especially
65 those such as Dr. Patrick Louis Pierce, a positive role model and
66 exceptional doctor who always put others before himself and loved



67 his family and friends unconditionally, bringing glory and honor
68 to the State of Mississippi:

69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
70 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
71 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Patrick
72 Louis Pierce, and express deepest sympathy to his family and
73 friends upon his passing.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
75 furnished to the family of Dr. Patrick Louis Pierce and to the
76 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

