

By: Representatives Weathersby, Baker,
Calhoun, Miles, Powell, Shanks, Wallace

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING
2 REPRESENTATIVE RAY ROGERS UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS 55TH
3 ANNIVERSARY AND RETIREMENT AS THE "VOICE OF THE PIRATES" FOR THE
4 PEARL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM.

5 WHEREAS, State Representative Ray Rogers, who served as the
6 Public Address Announcer at Pearl High School football games for
7 55 years, stepped down as the "Voice of the Pirates" at the end of
8 the 2018 football season; and

9 WHEREAS, because of his superb stature and distinctive voice,
10 Representative Rogers began his illustrious career as Pearl's
11 Public Address Announcer in 1964, and for the past 55 years,
12 thousands of players, band members and fans in the stands have
13 heard the "Voice of the Pirates" describe the extraordinary action
14 of the Pearl High School Football Team; and

15 WHEREAS, as the namesake of Ray Rogers Stadium on the campus
16 of Pearl High School, Representative Rogers' connection to Pearl
17 High School and its football program are deep-rooted, as he not
18 only was the Pirates' first quarterback and captain of the



19 football team, but he also met his loving wife of 64 years,
20 Shirley, while he was a high school student; and

21 WHEREAS, the Pirates' first football season began in 1949,
22 with Representative Rogers calling for the first snap in Pearl
23 history during a 20-0 win over Bentonina, and as an all-around
24 outstanding athlete, he was selected to the All-State Team his
25 senior year when the Pirates went 6-3; and

26 WHEREAS, Representative Rogers was also a star on the red,
27 dusty diamond, as he played minor league baseball for six years in
28 the old Cotton States League and semi-pro baseball for eight
29 years, and in 1985, he was inducted into the Mississippi Semi-Pro
30 Baseball Hall of Fame; and

31 WHEREAS, as the memorable "Voice of the Pirates,"
32 Representative Rogers has been dedicated to the history and spirit
33 of Pearl High School since his days as a student and football
34 player, and he has not missed one game in 35 years, and only
35 missed one-half of a home game and one away game in 50 years,
36 including the day of his daughter's wedding, during which he
37 attended the game in spirit as he wore earphones to keep up with
38 the progress of Pearl's game against Meridian High School; and

39 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to pay tribute
40 and cherish the legacy of outstanding members of the Mississippi
41 Legislature, especially those such as Representative Ray Rogers,
42 whose devotion to his community and to Pearl High School brings
43 honor to the State of Mississippi:



44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
46 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Representative
47 Ray Rogers on the occasion of his 55th anniversary and retirement
48 as the "Voice of the Pirates" for the Pearl High School Football
49 Team.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
51 furnished to Representative Ray Rogers and to the members of the
52 Capitol Press Corps.

