

By: Representatives Weathersby, Bounds,
Miles

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 98

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ESTEEMED CAREER AND PUBLIC
2 SERVICE THAT MRS. JO ANN HUGHES RENDERED TO THE CITIZENS OF
3 MISSISSIPPI AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ASSISTANT FOR THE
4 MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND CONGRATULATING HER UPON
5 THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT.

6 WHEREAS, after 24 years of dedicated and zealous service to
7 the Mississippi House of Representatives and the entire
8 constituency of the 122 elected members which comprise the House's
9 body, Mrs. Jo Ann Hughes will retire from public service as an
10 administrative committee assistant at the conclusion of this
11 legislative term, where she has become a synonymous fixture
12 associated with the bustling legislative committee activity on the
13 East Wing of the Mississippi State Capitol's first floor, after
14 having first begun her prestigious career as a committee assistant
15 on August 1, 1995; and

16 WHEREAS, a Scott County native, where she continues to reside
17 in the Morton community, and born to Mr. Jeff and Mrs. Jeanette
18 Bates, Jo Ann and her siblings, BJ, Donna and Sandy, were
19 instilled with the core principles that hard work and living a



20 life of respect and integrity, grounded in faith and a superior
21 educational foundation were the formula for a successful life; and

22 WHEREAS, equipped with the essential life tools imparted by
23 her parents, Jo Ann, after graduating from Morton Attendance
24 Center, furthered her collegiate matriculation at the Jackson
25 Commercial College, which prepared her for a successful career in
26 the insurance industry for some 25 years, and which, in tandem
27 with her charismatic personality, welcoming disposition and social
28 interaction with countless individuals, was the foundation
29 necessary for her segue into public service at the House of
30 Representatives; and

31 WHEREAS, since her arrival at the Mississippi State Capitol
32 in 1995, Jo Ann initially served the House as an administrative
33 committee assistant to the following House Committees and
34 chairmen: Accountability, Efficiency and Transparency, Chairman
35 Jerry Turner; Constitution, Chairmen Tommy Horne, Johnny Stringer,
36 Charlie Capps, Jim Evans, Scott DeLano and Brent Powell; Ethics,
37 Chairmen Robert Vince, Eloise Scott, Alyce G. Clarke, Joe Gardner,
38 Percy Watson, Andy Gipson and Mac Huddleston; Marine Resources,
39 Chairmen Herb Frierson, Frances Fredericks, Casey Eure and Timmy
40 Ladner; Public Property (formerly Public Buildings, Grounds and
41 Land), Chairmen Terry Brown, Diane Peranich, Mary Coleman and Tom
42 Weathersby; Public Utilities, Chairmen Tyrone Ellis and Jim
43 Beckett; Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (formerly Game and Fish),



Chairmen Dick Livingston, Clem Nettles, Eric Robinson, Bo Eaton
and Scott Bounds; and

WHEREAS, a stellar employee and a proven invaluable asset to
the House's systems of operation and functionality, Jo Ann's
exceptional performance in her administrative committee assistant
capacity garnered her much admiration and respect of her chairmen,
fellow colleagues, as well as the House Leadership, and her
consistency in performance has never waived from the date of her
initial hire until her decision to conclude her prestigious
legislative career; and

WHEREAS, Jo Ann has witnessed the evolution of state history
unfold in the shape of policy formulated by legislators, future
governors, other statewide elected officials, congressmen and
those who have transitioned from legislative careers to municipal
leadership, judiciary membership, statewide executive offices and
national appointments; and

WHEREAS, not to have a life with complete dimension and total
fulfillment, Jo Ann discovered an ever abounding love when she met
her soul mate, Charles Noel Hughes, a fellow public servant, who
served as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Community
Services with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
and Parks (MDWFP), and solidified that bond when they exchanged
nuptials in what would become the most enlightening years of her
life, in a storybook romance that further expounded upon the
tenets of love, generosity and selflessness shared between the two



69 not only as spouses, but also as friends and professional
70 colleagues, being that Jo Ann staffed the House committee assigned
71 to the legislative affairs of the MDWFP, until it was orchestrated
72 by God's divine providence for our lives to summon the mortal and
73 spiritual presence of Noel from earthly labor to heavenly reward
74 on January 1, 2016; and

75 WHEREAS, much to the credit of Jo Ann's indomitable spirit,
76 the adversity of death's stinging loss could not impede her
77 ability to remain resilient in the performance of fulfilling her
78 duties and responsibilities to the House of Representatives and
79 being ever the more diligent in spending irreplaceable quality
80 time with her daughter, Tammy, her grandchildren and her
81 great-grandchild; and

82 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
83 acknowledge outstanding Mississippians such as Jo Ann Hughes, one
84 we are proud to call our own, whose daily presence in the Capitol
85 will be sorely missed, but whose legacy of selflessness, fairness,
86 hard work, professionalism and overall commitment to improving the
87 individual lives of others and her community and state, has made
88 an indelible mark on the Mississippi Legislature and all those who
89 have been privileged to know and work with her:

90 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
91 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
92 commend the esteemed career and public service that Jo Ann Hughes
93 rendered to the citizens of Mississippi as an administrative



94 committee assistant for the House of Representatives, congratulate
95 her upon the occasion of her retirement from public service and
96 extend warmest wishes for continued success in all of her future
97 endeavors.

98 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
99 furnished to Mrs. Jo Ann Hughes and to the members of the Capitol
100 Press Corps.

