

By: Representatives Oliver, Scott, Aguirre, Barnett, Bell (21st), Clark, Currie, Evans (45th), Faulkner, Gibbs (36th), Guice, Hale, Haney, Hood, Horne, Mangold, Massengill, McCarty, Morgan, Pigott, Roberson, Rushing, Smith, Tullos, Wallace, Yancey, Lancaster

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 47

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING EAGLE SCOUT JAMES
2 ARMSTRONG ON EARNING 138 SCOUT MERIT BADGES, WHICH IS EVERY MERIT
3 BADGE THAT THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA OFFERS AND THE MOST MERIT
4 BADGES EARNED BY A PERSON IN THE HISTORY OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF
5 AMERICA.

6 WHEREAS, James Armstrong, of Vaiden, Mississippi, and an
7 Eagle Scout since 2016, has earned 138 scout merit badges, which
8 is every merit badge offered by the Boy Scouts of America and the
9 most merit badges earned by a person in the history of the Boy
10 Scouts of America; and

11 WHEREAS, a dedicated scout, James has been a member of the
12 Scouts since beginning his scouting career in the Cub Scouts in
13 2008, from which he began his steady and persistent progress
14 through the Scouts rising to the rank of Boy Scout in 2013, and
15 continuing to earn merit badges until earning 91 merit badges when
16 he became an Eagle Scout at age 14 in 2016; and

17 WHEREAS, after becoming an Eagle Scout, James continued to
18 earn merit badges such as Aviation, Chemistry and Robotics until
19 he earned his 138th merit badge, which was in scuba diving and



20 required specialized training and travel to achieve, and among the
21 many projects James completed during his scouting career, his
22 Eagle project was replacing a gravel path to the Christ's Cross at
23 the Crossroads in Winona, Mississippi, with a seven foot concrete
24 ramp with handrails following Americans with Disabilities Act
25 (ADA) guidelines; and

26 WHEREAS, among his numerous scouting awards and various
27 leadership positions, James has also earned the Order of Arrow
28 Brotherhood which is the National Honor Society of the Boy Scouts
29 of America, and throughout the way he has demonstrated Scout
30 spirit through the Scout Oath and Scout Law, service and
31 leadership; and

32 WHEREAS, James Armstrong's time as a Scout will come to an
33 end when he reaches 18 years of age on April 6, 2020, with him
34 having done everything he could have done as a Boy Scout and
35 having done what no other Boy Scout has done by earning 138 merit
36 badges; and

37 WHEREAS, in addition to being a one of a kind Boy Scout,
38 James is also an outstanding student at Winona High School, where
39 he is on the A Honor Roll and taking dual enrollment classes
40 through Holmes Community College, has a perfect attendance record
41 and is a member of the National Beta Club, Super Scholars, Mu
42 Alpha Theta, SkillsUSA, National Art Honors Society,
43 Superintendent's Advisory Council and National Society for High
44 School Scholars; and



45 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school in May 2020, James
46 plans to continue his education at Holmes Community College for
47 two years before heading to Mississippi State University to pursue
48 a degree in engineering; and

49 WHEREAS, James is a member of Vaiden Baptist Church and also
50 involved with many community activities such as Veterans Day
51 ceremonies, Flag Day ceremonies, Easter Service at Christ's Cross
52 at the Crossroads, Blue Star Dedication in Winona and Kilmichael,
53 the Christmas party at Winona Manor Nursing Home and Christmas
54 Parades in Vaiden, Kilmichael, Winona and Carrollton; and

55 WHEREAS, James is the son of Tim and Bobbie Armstrong who
56 have helped him in many ways during his time as a Scout and a
57 young man and he is the grandson of Johnnie and Purvie Weeks of
58 Pearl, Mississippi, and Joyce Armstrong and the late Joe Armstrong
59 of Vaiden, Mississippi; and

60 WHEREAS, as evidenced by his incredible achievements as a Boy
61 Scout, academic success and community involvement and service to
62 others, James Armstrong demonstrates his determination to prepare
63 himself for a meaningful and productive role as a leader in
64 society and making the world around him the best he can and he
65 will become a great asset, not only for the State of Mississippi,
66 but also for the United States; and

67 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
68 recognize and honor the best and brightest of Mississippi's youth,
69 especially those such as James Armstrong, who has done everything



70 he could have done as a Boy Scout and done what no other Boy Scout
71 has done by earning 138 merit badges and in doing so, brought
72 honor to his family, community and the State of Mississippi:

73 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
74 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
75 commend and congratulate James Armstrong on earning 138 merit
76 badges during his outstanding career as a Boy Scout, and extend
77 most sincere wishes for continued success in all of his future
78 endeavors.

79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
80 furnished to the family of James Armstrong and to the members of
81 the Capitol Press Corps.

