

By: Representative Lancaster

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR.
2 JAMES "DAVID" ALFORD, SR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS
3 FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To
5 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under
6 the Heaven," and as such, on January 24, 2021, the immaculate
7 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal
8 presence of dearly beloved, Mr. James "David" Alford Sr., to
9 eternal rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and
10 friends; and

11 WHEREAS, born on July 19, 1943, to Leslie Paul Alford and
12 Jeanette Lowrey Pumphrey, in Thorn, Mississippi, Mr. Alford,
13 affectionately known as "David," was a member of Thorn Church of
14 God, and served his country as a National Guardsman; and

15 WHEREAS, as a young man, Mr. Alford and his oldest brother,
16 Curtis Paul "Pete", drove trucks, hauling most anything that could
17 be loaded onto a flatbed trailer, and as they grew up in an era
18 where "real work" was a requirement, they both had entrepreneurial



19 aspirations, and as they were both inventive and resourceful, they
20 knew how to get a job done, and these characteristics were evident
21 over the years as they worked side-by-side in the lime and
22 fertilizer business, as well as with their youngest brother,
23 Sherman, in the furniture and lumber business; and

24 WHEREAS, as Mr. Alford was living and working in his
25 community daily, he noticed that the closest fire brigade was in
26 the town of Houston, Mississippi, and as the story goes, if fire
27 broke out in the Thorn community, those working in the small
28 businesses and fields within the community would grab a bucket,
29 load up in the backs of pickups, and head to help fight the fire
30 until the trucks arrived from town, and as he saw a great need in
31 his community, he embarked on his most passionate quest during the
32 mid-1980s, and began to encourage his fellow countrymen to join
33 him, Brother Grady Williams, Mr. Harley Langley and Mr. Hershel
34 Duffel in the establishment of volunteer fire departments
35 throughout Chickasaw County, Mississippi; and

36 WHEREAS, a genuine and distinguished man, Mr. Alford's
37 extraordinary devotion to his family and to his community will
38 always be remembered, and precious memories of time spent with him
39 will hopefully continue to provide warmth, peace and comfort to
40 his loved ones; and

41 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to reunite
42 with those who answered God's summons to life eternal and now
43 beckon his arrival to the celestial shores of Heaven's grandeur,



44 such as his parents, Leslie Alford and Jeanette Pumphrey;
45 brothers, Curtis Paul "Pete" Alford and Leslie "Sherman" Alford;
46 and his youngest son, Chance Martin Alford; the legacy of
47 Mr. Alford's indelible imprint upon our lives will continue to
48 refresh the hearts and fond memories of his loved ones, including
49 his faithful companion, Melinda Hardin; eight fur babies; the
50 mother of his oldest children, Linda Alford; son, James Alford
51 Jr.; daughter, Jeanie McNeel; grandchildren, Cooper, KarLee and
52 John Glenn McNeel; great-granddaughter, Lucy Kate McNeel;
53 brothers, Raymond Pumphrey and Jim Wilkerson; sisters, Marie Crow,
54 Cecilia Pearson and Cindy Walls; step-mother, Earlene Alford; and
55 a host of other relatives and dear friends; and

56 WHEREAS, Mr. Alford will forever be loved, cherished and
57 missed by all who knew him, and since it is written in 2
58 Corinthians 5:8, that to be "absent from the body is to be present
59 with the Lord," his family and friends can find peace and comfort
60 during this difficult time; and

61 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
62 and commend the lives of outstanding Mississippians, especially
63 those such as Mr. Alford, who certainly inspired everyone he met
64 and whose life's light illuminated the path of hope for all he
65 encountered along his earthly sojourn:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
67 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
68 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the life



69 and legacy of Mr. James "David" Alford Sr., and express sincere
70 and deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his passing.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
72 furnished to the family of Mr. James "David" Alford Sr., and to
73 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

