By: Representatives Zuber, Busby, Eure, Read To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

- A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. GEORGE SMITH.
- 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, the immaculate author and finisher of
- 6 our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of dearly beloved,
- 7 Mr. George Smith, to eternal rest, rendering great sorrow and loss
- 8 to his family, friends and community; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the entire Mississippi
- 10 Gulf Coast community lost a wonderful friend, loving husband and
- 11 father and dedicated community leader with the passing of Mr.
- 12 Smith, who was born on January 12, 1935, in Gulfport, to the late
- 13 Hubert and Mildred Smith, and there is now a hush in our hearts as
- 14 we come together to pay our respects to the memory of one who has
- 15 been called to join that innumerable heavenly caravan; and

- 16 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was a man of uncompromised faith and a
- 17 member of First United Methodist Church in Wiggins, Mississippi,
- 18 and he now enjoys the eternal peace described in Luke 2:29, "Lord,

- 19 now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to
- 20 your word"; and
- 21 WHEREAS, after graduating from Gulfport High School, Mr.
- 22 Smith joined an elite fraternity of seamen in the United States
- 23 Navy in 1952, and he patriotically served his country in Guam
- 24 during the Korean War; and
- 25 WHEREAS, upon his return from the war, Mr. Smith attended
- 26 Perkinston College, now Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College,
- 27 where he played football, and William Carey University in
- 28 Gulfport, and upon his graduation, he selflessly dedicated his
- 29 professional career and numerous years of illustrious public
- 30 service and competent guidance to the people in his community; and
- 31 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith has served as a Gulfport motorcycle
- 32 policeman, an Alcohol Beverage Control agent, an assistant sheriff
- 33 in Harrison County, a state senator, the Secretary of the Senate
- 34 under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Amy Tuck, the Harrison
- 35 County Youth Court Administrator, Tourism Director for Harrison
- 36 County and Tourism Director for the State of Mississippi, and he
- 37 retired from the Mississippi Department of Transportation in 2015;
- 38 and
- 39 WHEREAS, after his retirement, Mr. Smith continued his role
- 40 of public service when he served as an alderman in Wiggins and as
- 41 a board member for the Pat Harrison Waterway District, and in his
- 42 spare time, Mr. Smith was an avid outdoorsman, loved watching Ole

- 43 Miss football and truly enjoyed living a full life on his own
- 44 terms; and
- 45 WHEREAS, Mr. George Smith was a strong, loving and
- 46 compassionate husband, father, grandfather, confidante and friend
- 47 who touched the lives of all those who crossed his sweet and
- 48 charming path, and his warm hugs, positive energy, contagious
- 49 laughter and bright smile will be forever cherished by his family,
- 50 friends and others who knew him and experienced his greatness; and
- 51 WHEREAS, though he has traversed life's river to now stand
- 52 upon the celestial shores in wonderment of Heaven's grandeur in
- 53 glorious reunion with those who transitioned before him, including
- 54 his wife, Carol Smith, his parents, Hubert and Mildred Smith, his
- 55 son, Mark Smith, and his brother, Larry Smith, the memory of Mr.
- 56 Smith, a man held in the highest regard by friends and family as
- 57 an inspiring and precious gift from God, will continue to refresh
- 58 the hearts and memories of his beloved survivors: children, Susan
- 59 Allen (Joey), Julia Threadgill (Ricky) and Brian Cain (Chris);
- 60 daughter-in-law, Angie Smith; brother, Richard Smith;
- 61 grandchildren, Lauren Parker (Jonathan), Scarlett Bellot, Meghan
- 62 Smith, Porter Smith, Carson Thrash (Taylor), Keith Cain, Connor
- 63 Cain, Marissa Allen and Whitney Threadgill; 10
- 64 great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends;
- 65 and
- WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the
- 67 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their

- 68 beloved family member in Revelation 21:4, wherein is recorded,
- 69 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there
- 70 shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall
- 71 there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" and
- 72 renewed in their faith that Mr. Smith fulfilled the commandment of
- 73 II Timothy 4:7 by having "fought a good fight, finishing his
- 74 course and keeping the faith until the hour of his departure was
- 75 at hand"; and
- 76 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
- 77 and honor the lives of fine Mississippians, especially those such
- 78 as Mr. George Smith, a gracious man who loved his family, friends
- 79 and community unconditionally and worshipped the Lord God Almighty
- 80 with all of his heart and soul, bringing glory and honor to the
- 81 State of Mississippi:
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
- 83 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
- 84 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the life
- 85 and legacy of Mr. George Smith, and express deepest sympathy to
- 86 his family and friends upon his passing.
- 87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
- 88 furnished to the family of Mr. George Smith and to the members of
- 89 the Capitol Press Corps.