

By: Representatives Smith, Horne

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMENDING THE  
2 LIFE, SERVICE AND LEGACY OF MR. ROGER "BIG JOHN" EARL ROBINSON AND  
3 EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS  
4 PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is written in II Corinthians 4:17-18, "For our  
6 light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far  
7 more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at  
8 the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:  
9 for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which  
10 are not seen are eternal," and as such, the immaculate author and  
11 finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of  
12 dearly beloved, Mr. Roger "Big John" Earl Robinson, to rest  
13 eternally, on Sunday, February 27, 2022, as he has made life's  
14 final transition from earthly travailing to heavenly reward,  
15 rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

16 WHEREAS, the Energy, Bucatunna and Quitman communities of  
17 Clarke County, lost a wonderful friend and revered Vietnam War  
18 veteran with the passing of Mr. Robinson, born in Quitman County  
19 on April 14, 1947, to his late parents Mr. Earl and Mrs. Blanche



20 Robinson, and there is now a hush in our hearts as we come  
21 together to pay our respects to the memory of one who has been  
22 called to join that innumerable heavenly caravan; and

23 WHEREAS, summoned to answer the patriotic call of duty,  
24 proving to be both a distinguished officer and gentleman, "Big  
25 John," as he was affectionately called, enlisted into the United  
26 States Army on July 30, 1968, and was stationed at Fort Benning,  
27 Georgia, to shoulder the privilege of upholding the banner of  
28 protecting the rights and freedoms afforded us in the iconic  
29 symbol of Lady Liberty while serving during the Vietnam War  
30 Conflict, while assigned to Company A, 1st Battalion, 58th  
31 Infantry; and

32 WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson's willingness to risk his life and limb  
33 for the safety and security of our country perpetuates the  
34 greatness of our nation and demonstrates to others the greatness  
35 of the American spirit; and

36 WHEREAS, having been sent to the battle front immediately  
37 upon his arrival in Vietnam on January 9, 1969, a subsequent  
38 ensuing attack from enemy fire of the North Vietnamese caused Mr.  
39 Robinson to suffer severe injuries, which required him to be  
40 airlifted out of the country to a better equipped medical center,  
41 which abbreviated his time in war-torn Vietnam to a May 4, 1969,  
42 departure; and

43 WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson's reentry into the United States would  
44 be processed in St. Louis, Missouri, which would be his last



45 assignment before receiving an honorable discharge on July 29,  
46 1970, with the following medals and commendations: National  
47 Defense Service Medal; Marksman (Rifle M-14); Marksman (Rifle  
48 M-16); 1st Class Gunner (M-60); and Vietnam Service Medal with one  
49 Bronze Star; and

50 WHEREAS, due to his out-of-country treatment for his injury  
51 and an unfortunate error in the accompaniment of his military  
52 records, Mr. Robinson was eventually awarded the Combat  
53 Infantryman's Badge (CIB) 50 years after-the-fact, which was  
54 presented to him at the Quitman VFW Post, where he was a lifetime  
55 member; and

56 WHEREAS, fate would lend itself to being built in accordance  
57 with the blueprint divinely designed for the pattern of his life  
58 by the Great Deity and grand architect of our lives' destiny, when  
59 Big John's love, chivalry and affection pierced the heart of the  
60 former Miss Earline Cooper, and the duo became bone of one  
61 another's bone and flesh of one another's flesh after exchanging  
62 the nuptials of holy matrimony, building a lifetime of memories,  
63 which spanned the course of 54 years, and blessed with the  
64 fruitful addition of three children, with whom they shared the  
65 abundant blessings of love, honor, humility and the bountiful  
66 blessings of God's amazing grace and tender mercies; and

67 WHEREAS, though he has traversed life's river to now stand  
68 upon the celestial shores in wonderment of Heaven's grandeur, and  
69 joyous reunion with the kindred spirits of loved ones gone on



70 before, the legacy of Mr. Robinson's indelible imprint upon our  
71 lives will continue to refresh the hearts and fond memories of his  
72 beloved survivors: wife, Earline Cooper Robinson; children,  
73 Daphne Rich (Jay), Sonia Farrar (Jared) and Derek Robinson;  
74 grandchildren, Tori Zdenek (Jeff), Sammi Jo Ross (Nathan), Kinsley  
75 Farrar and Bentley Farrar; one great-grandchild, Camryn Taylor;  
76 siblings, Jeweleen Stewart, Royce Robinson, Sandy Pate, Ronald  
77 Robinson, Ricky Robinson and Shelia Mosley; numerous nieces,  
78 nephews and a community of friends and associates throughout  
79 Clarke and Lauderdale Counties; and

80 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend and  
81 honor United States veterans for their courageous service and  
82 selfless devotion to the country, state, community and family,  
83 especially those veterans of Mr. Robinson's caliber, whose life  
84 and service were a beacon of inspiration for all he encountered  
85 along this earthly sojourn:

86 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
87 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
88 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the  
89 life, service and legacy of Mr. Roger "Big John" Earl Robinson, to  
90 whose family we express sincere and deepest sympathy upon his  
91 passing.

92 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
93 furnished to the family of Mr. Roger "Big John" Earl Robinson and  
94 to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

