

By: Representative Roberson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 39

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, LEGACY AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
2 MRS. SHERYL SMITH ASKEW AND EXPRESSING SINCEREST SYMPATHY UPON HER  
3 PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Sheryl Smith Askew, the great Christian  
5 matriarch of the Askew family, departed this earthly life to be in  
6 the presence of the Lord on January 30, 2022, at the age of 72,  
7 bringing sorrow to her family, church family and friends; and

8 WHEREAS, a native of Jackson, Mississippi, Mrs. Askew was  
9 born on November 11, 1949, to her parents, PG and Jean Q. Smith,  
10 and was reared in love; and

11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Askew moved to Newton, Mississippi, in 1965 and  
12 in 1968, she graduated from Newton High School where she remained  
13 in contact with many of her fellow high school classmates; and

14 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mrs. Askew, who  
15 knew the importance of continuing her education, attended  
16 Mississippi State University and earned a bachelor of science  
17 degree, a master's degree in education and an education specialist



18 degree in elementary education, which is a testament of the  
19 dedication that she had to her chosen field of education; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Askew, who had a dynamic teaching career that  
21 positively touched hundreds of young lives, taught first and  
22 second graders at Kosciusko Elementary School, Starkville  
23 Overstreet Elementary and Sudduth Elementary, before retiring in  
24 2002; and

25 WHEREAS, a woman of many talents, Mrs. Askew had a passion  
26 for traveling, making beautiful designs with her quilting as well  
27 as following her alma mater's athletic teams, MSU, and as the  
28 matriarch of her family, she also enjoyed spending time with her  
29 son and family in Texas, especially her grandsons who were the  
30 joys of her life; and

31 WHEREAS, Mrs. Askew was not only a loving wife, mother, and  
32 grandmother, she was a Christian who was formerly a member of  
33 Jackson Ridgecrest Baptist and Newton First Baptist before joining  
34 First Baptist Starkville; and

35 WHEREAS, as an active member of First Baptist Starkville,  
36 Mrs. Askew loved her church family and especially enjoyed her  
37 membership in the Friendship Sunday School class where she reveled  
38 in the fellowship, prayer, accountability and the studying of  
39 God's word with her fellow class members; and

40 WHEREAS, the memories of Mrs. Askew will continue to flourish  
41 in the hearts and minds of her survivors, some of whom include:  
42 her loving husband of 48 years, Joe; their son, Trey;



43 daughter-in-law, Shanna; grandchildren, Cameron and Eli; and a  
44 brother, Dan; all of whom will forever cherish the pearls of  
45 wisdom she so freely shared throughout her 72 years of blessed  
46 life; and

47 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
48 honor the life of a fine Mississippian such as Mrs. Sheryl S.  
49 Askew, whose positive impact in the field of education and her  
50 love for her family and church will be treasured by those who knew  
51 her for generations to come:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
53 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
54 commend the life, legacy and contributions of Mrs. Sheryl Smith  
55 Askew and express sincerest sympathy upon her passing.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
57 furnished to the family of Mrs. Sheryl Smith Askew and to the  
58 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

