

By: Representative Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 58

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND  
2 LEGACY OF MR. EDDIE JAMES STEPNEY.

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, on January 12, 2022, the immaculate  
6 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal  
7 presence of dearly beloved, Mr. Eddie James Stepney, to eternal  
8 rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family, friends and  
9 community; and

10 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the City of  
11 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, lost a wonderful friend, loving husband  
12 and father and dedicated community leader with the passing of Mr.  
13 Stepney, who was born on November 26, 1957, in Hattiesburg to the  
14 late Roosevelt Stepney and Cerelia Packer Stepney, and there is  
15 now a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our respects  
16 to the memory of one who has been called to join that innumerable  
17 heavenly caravan; and



18           WHEREAS, Eddie James Stepney was a man of uncompromised faith  
19 and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at an early age  
20 at Antioch Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend R.W.  
21 Woullard, Sr., and was ordained as a deacon under the leadership  
22 of Reverend W.C. Carroll, and he now enjoys the eternal peace  
23 described in Luke 2:29, "Lord, now you are letting your servant  
24 depart in peace, according to your word"; and

25           WHEREAS, a 1975 graduate of Hattiesburg High School, Mr.  
26 Stepney attended Jackson State University before he enlisted with  
27 an elite fraternity of soldiers in the United States Army from  
28 November 19, 1981, until April 19, 1984, during which time he not  
29 only heroically and patriotically fought for his country as  
30 commander of Post 225, but also helped many young men attend Boys  
31 State and the American Legion Oratory contest; and

32           WHEREAS, the memory of Mr. Stepney, a man held in the highest  
33 regard by friends and family as an inspiring and precious gift  
34 from God, will continue to refresh the hearts and memories of his  
35 beloved survivors: his loving wife, Jeruthia (Judy); daughter,  
36 Hillary; siblings, Roosevelt Stepney, Jr., Willie (Sharon)  
37 Stepney, Michael Tisdale, Tyrone (Nellie) Jackson, Vera Stepney,  
38 Vickey Campbell, Phyllis Williams and Patricia (Carlton) Burkett;  
39 in-laws, Nancy Knight, Rosetta Woullard and Charles Smith; and a  
40 host of other relatives and friends; and

41           WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the  
42 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their



43 beloved family member in Revelation 21:4, wherein is recorded,  
44 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there  
45 shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall  
46 there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" and  
47 renewed in their faith that Mr. Eddie James Stepney fulfilled the  
48 commandment of II Timothy 4:7 by having "fought a good fight,  
49 finishing his course and keeping the faith until the hour of his  
50 departure was at hand"; and

51 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
52 recognize and honor the lives of fine Mississippians, especially  
53 those such as Mr. Eddie James Stepney, a gracious man who loved  
54 his family and friends unconditionally and worshipped the Lord God  
55 Almighty with all of his heart and soul, bringing glory and honor  
56 to the State of Mississippi:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
58 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
59 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Mr. Eddie  
60 James Stepney, and express deepest sympathy to his family and  
61 friends upon his passing.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
63 furnished to the family of Mr. Eddie James Stepney and to the  
64 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

