

By: Representative Bennett

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING CHIEF GARY PONTHEUX, JR.,
2 FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT
3 AND CONGRATULATING HIM UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, Chief Gary Ponthieux, Jr., of the Bay St. Louis
5 Police Department has decided to retire after 28 years of selfless
6 service in law enforcement in protection of the citizens of South
7 Mississippi; and

8 WHEREAS, a native of Bay St. Louis, Chief Ponthieux currently
9 resides in Pass Christian with the love of his life, Kacey
10 Edwards, and their children, Luci and Max; and

11 WHEREAS, he earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice
12 with a double minor in forensic science and psychology from the
13 University of Southern Mississippi; and

14 WHEREAS, in preparation for his public service career in law
15 enforcement, he attended the Hattiesburg Police Department Law
16 Enforcement Academy in 1994, where he received the highest
17 academic award; and



18 WHEREAS, he officially began his law enforcement journey
19 with the Gulfport Police Department as a police officer, where he
20 quickly worked his way up to Narcotics Detective and served from
21 April 1995 through January 2003, until he was promoted to Criminal
22 Investigations Detective Sergeant; and

23 WHEREAS, he worked diligently to serve the Gulfport community
24 until November 2017, when he moved on as Chief of Police of the
25 Bay St. Louis Police Department where he spent five years
26 protecting and serving the community until he retired; and

27 WHEREAS, between Gulfport and Bay St. Louis, he has
28 cumulatively provided 28 years of unwavering service to the
29 citizens of South Mississippi; and

30 WHEREAS, as evidence of his stellar work ethic, he has
31 received numerous awards from community organizations, such as the
32 Gulfport Rotary Club and Gulfport Chamber of Commerce; and

33 WHEREAS, since his retirement, he has taken a position with
34 the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), a DEA task force
35 that targets high-intensity drug trafficking and money laundering
36 organizations; and

37 WHEREAS, throughout his career, he has continuously gone
38 above and beyond to answer the call of public service and embodied
39 the virtuous qualities of integrity, hard work, and selflessness
40 that South Mississippians expect from their public servants; and



41 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate to commend the life-long
42 service of heroic law enforcement officers who are also committed
43 public servants who love their families:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
46 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Chief Gary Ponthieux, Jr., for
47 his many years of dedicated public service in law enforcement and
48 congratulate him upon his retirement.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
50 furnished to Chief Gary Ponthieux, Jr., and to the members of the
51 Capitol Press Corps.

