

By: Representative Holloway

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 20

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING COPIAH COUNTY,  
2 MISSISSIPPI, UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY,  
3 ACKNOWLEDGING 200 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE.

4 WHEREAS, on January 21, 1823, the Mississippi Legislature  
5 created Copiah County, Mississippi, and this year, on January 21,  
6 2023, Copiah County will celebrate its Bicentennial Anniversary,  
7 acknowledging 200 years of rich and historical excellence; and

8 WHEREAS, on October 18, 1820, the area that is now Copiah  
9 County was ceded to the United States by the Choctaw tribe in the  
10 treaty known as the "Doak's Stand Treaty"; and

11 WHEREAS, the name "Copiah" comes from the Choctaw language,  
12 and is a combination of two words: "Coi", which means "panther",  
13 and "Apahyah", which means "to call out", and thus, Copiah means  
14 "Calling Panther"; and

15 WHEREAS, established on January 21, 1823, Copiah County was  
16 formed by a division of Hinds and Yazoo counties, and at that  
17 time, Copiah included all of its present area, as well as all of



18 Simpson County, about one-third of Lincoln County, and about one  
19 thousand acres of Franklin County; and

20 WHEREAS, presently, the county contains 769 square miles, and  
21 is the seventh largest area in the Magnolia State, and some of its  
22 early communities were Coor's Springs, which was the first county  
23 seat, Gallatin, Crystal Springs, Centerpoint, Conn, Union School,  
24 Georgetown, and Hazlehurst, which was established as a railroad  
25 stop in 1856, and is the current county seat; and

26 WHEREAS, a few celebrated Copiah County natives include:  
27 blues legend, Robert Johnson, who was born there in 1911; Tommy  
28 Johnson and his blues-playing brothers; civil rights activist,  
29 A.M.E. Logan, who was born in Myles; artists, Mary T. Smith and  
30 Luster Willis; Judge Burnita Shelton Matthews, the first woman  
31 appointed to serve on a United States District Court; and Susie  
32 Powell, who started several of Mississippi's first canning clubs  
33 in 1911; and

34 WHEREAS, the county is also home to Copiah-Lincoln Junior  
35 College, founded in Wesson in 1928, and the county is also well  
36 known as the Tomato Capital of the World, and it holds annual  
37 festivities to celebrate its agricultural heritage; and

38 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
39 pay tribute to an outstanding county such as Copiah County, which  
40 is a place where the quality of life is still important and where  
41 its values stand as a role model throughout the great State of  
42 Mississippi:



43           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
44 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
45 recognize and commend Copiah County, Mississippi, upon the  
46 outstanding occasion of its Bicentennial Anniversary, and extend  
47 best wishes for great success in all of its future endeavors.

48           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
49 furnished to Copiah County, Mississippi, and to the members of the  
50 Capitol Press Corps.

