

By: Representative Reynolds

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 117

1 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING RIGHT REVEREND BRIAN R.
2 SEAGE FOR HIS WONDERFUL, SELFLESS SERVICE AS BISHOP OF THE
3 EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI UPON THE OCCASION OF
4 HIS RETIREMENT.

5 WHEREAS, a community is nothing without its ministerial
6 clergy, who seek the very heart of God and intercede on behalf of
7 its congregation, parishioners and local communities, and Right
8 Reverend Brian R. Seage, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the
9 State of Mississippi has far exceeded the call of stewardship, as
10 he has devoted his life to the ministry; and

11 WHEREAS, elected on May 3, 2014, at Jackson's St. Andrew's
12 Cathedral, receiving the required consents from a majority of
13 bishops and standing committees of the Episcopal Church, Right
14 Reverend Brian R. Seage, succeeded the Right Reverend Duncan M.
15 Gray, III, as the 10th bishop of Mississippi upon Gray's
16 retirement in February 2015; and

17 WHEREAS, holding an undergraduate degree from Pepperdine
18 University and a master's of divinity from the Episcopal
19 Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Bishop Seage, who entered



20 the sacred and divine order of priesthood in 1998, served as
21 curate at St. John's Episcopal Church of Ocean Springs from
22 1997-1998, and then as rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in
23 Diamondhead from 1998 through 2005, where he also served on the
24 board of trustees for Coast Episcopal School; and

25 WHEREAS, during his service as curate and rector, Bishop
26 Seage shepherded the growth of attendance and programming in the
27 parish, completing a successful building program and doubling the
28 average Sunday attendance during his ministerial tenure at St.
29 Thomas; and

30 WHEREAS, called to serve as rector for St. Columb's Episcopal
31 Church in Ridgeland in 2005, Bishop Seage was elected as bishop
32 coadjutor during his tenure at St. Columb's while simultaneously
33 fulfilling the roll as dean of the Central Convocation of the
34 Diocese of Mississippi, where he helped coordinate and enable the
35 ministry of Episcopal clergy in Central Mississippi; and

36 WHEREAS, prior to entering the ministry to further aid other
37 clerics in proclaiming the love and mercy of His Holiness, Bishop
38 Seage served as director of youth ministry for St. Patrick's
39 Episcopal Church in his native home of Thousand Oaks, California,
40 where he managed a team of volunteers to support both the junior
41 high and senior high youth groups, assisted with chapel at St.
42 Patrick's Day School, and coordinated the congregation's Habitat
43 for Humanity program; and



44 WHEREAS, Right Reverend Seage served the Diocese of
45 Mississippi as a Fresh Start facilitator in addition to being a
46 member of the diocese's Executive Committee from 2006 through
47 2009, as well as a member of the diocesan Restructure Task Force
48 before his 2014 election to bishop, a position which allows him to
49 oversee 89 congregations, three colleges and multiple day schools
50 throughout the State of Mississippi; and

51 WHEREAS, during his episcopacy, Bishop Seage has been a camp
52 director at Camp Bratton-Green every summer since 2006, while also
53 serving on the Gray Center Board of Managers; and

54 WHEREAS, while on his Emmaus Walk, Bishop Seage, who has
55 given extraordinary and dedicated leadership during his
56 episcopacy, has benefitted from the Ecclesiastical counsel of
57 holiness offered by his wife, Kyle, who serves as rector at St.
58 Philip's in Jackson, and received the dotting affection of their
59 daughters, Katie and Betsy; and

60 WHEREAS, men of faith such as Bishop Seage are rare in these
61 times of social and moral decline in America but nevertheless
62 serve to uphold everything that is good and right about a country
63 that has its very founding premised upon spiritual foundation in
64 God as the sovereign deity; and

65 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
66 recognize such outstanding Godly leaders such as Bishop Seage, who
67 has dedicated his life of ministry to compelling many souls to



68 know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, bringing
69 glory and honor to the State of Mississippi:

70 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
71 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
72 commend and honor the dedication of Right Reverend Brian R. Seage
73 to his community, to the Lord, and to the State of Mississippi as
74 Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Mississippi, congratulate him
75 upon the occasion of his retirement, and express sincere wishes
76 for continued success in all his future endeavors.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
78 furnished to Right Reverend Brian R. Seage and to the members of
79 the Capitol Press Corps.

