

By: Representatives Holloway, Banks, Bell
(65th), Hines, Johnson, Miles

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 120

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
2 LEGACY OF MR. MORRIS BOZEMAN.

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 March 4, 2023, the immaculate author
6 and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of
7 dearly beloved, Mr. Morris Bozeman, to eternal rest, rendering
8 great sorrow and loss to his family, friends and community; and

9 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the City of Terry,
10 Mississippi, lost a wonderful friend and loving father with the
11 passing of Mr. Bozeman, who was born on June 1, 1929, on the
12 Patton Johnson Place in Terry to the late Willie and Kate
13 Brown-Bozeman, one of 12 children, and there is now a hush in our
14 hearts as we come together to pay our respects to the memory of
15 one who has been called to join that innumerable heavenly caravan;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, a man of uncompromised faith, Mr. Bozeman accepted
18 Christ at a young age and was baptized at Little Bethel CME



19 Church, where he served faithfully as an assistant superintendent
20 of the Sunday School, junior steward, junior trustee, recording
21 steward, chairman of the steward board and church treasurer, and
22 on the district level, as district superintendent and as a
23 delegate to the CME conferences, and he now enjoys the eternal
24 peace described in Luke 2:29, "Lord, now you are letting your
25 servant depart in peace, according to your word"; and

26 WHEREAS, the son of a sharecropper, Mr. Bozeman learned the
27 value of hard work very early in life as he would milk the cows
28 and perform other chores before going to school, and while he only
29 advanced to the eighth grade, he was a keen observer and an avid
30 listener and learned many life lessons from his favorite teachers,
31 Hattie Williams and Ora Lee Wolfe, as well as his Grandpa Bright;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, the love and affection of Mr. Bozeman pierced the
34 heart and soul of Ethel Pearl Bingham-Bozeman, and the two
35 lovebirds exchanged the vows of holy matrimony with the sweet
36 words, "I do", and they worked together to make their home a haven
37 of love, discipline and respect and were happily married for 45
38 years and nine months; and

39 WHEREAS, Mr. Bozeman worked several jobs in order to provide
40 a comfortable living for his wife and children, as his earliest
41 employers were United Distributors, MS Products, and Colonial
42 Bakery, and he was later employed by Harshaw-Filtrol-Englehard



43 Corporation, from which he retired in 1991 after working there for
44 23 years; and

45 WHEREAS, an accomplished man of the land, Mr. Bozeman raised
46 cows, pigs, horses, chickens, sugar cane, fruits and vegetables
47 for his growing family, and he was actively involved in his
48 community, always lending a helping hand to his neighbors in need;
49 and

50 WHEREAS, Mr. Bozeman never met a stranger and always donned
51 his signature attire, khaki slacks and a plaid shirt, regardless
52 of who he was meeting, and he could carry on a conversation with
53 anyone he met, and he was known for encouraging many individuals
54 from Terry to pursue their dreams, including Dr. Robert Smith, a
55 family friend and his personal physician, and his brother, George,
56 who became the first African-American supervisor from District 5;
57 and

58 WHEREAS, the memory of Mr. Bozeman, a man held in the highest
59 regard by friends and family as an inspiring and precious gift
60 from God, will continue to refresh the hearts and memories of his
61 beloved survivors: children, Earlean Bozeman, Geralean (Ray)
62 Gibson, Mae (Dennis) Grant, Alma (Jesse) Cline, Kathy (Kenneth)
63 Funchess, Willie Morris (Stephanie) Bozeman, Jennifer (Thomas)
64 Holly and Tanya (Jimmie) Shaw; grandchildren, Roshada, Jeryl, Ian,
65 Morris (Erica), Samantha, Jessica, Samuel Morris (Jessica),
66 Kandice (Elliot), Karla, Karnice, Kristian, Shara, Brequia, Jamie,
67 Katie, Deanna, Phyliscia (Marcus), Tiarra and Jarrett;



68 great-grandchildren, Kamryn, Raven, London, Kensleigh, Paige,
69 Karmin, Zoey, Kaylie, Taylor, Carter, Sunni, Isaiah, Kingston
70 Morris and Emersyn; siblings, Bright Bozeman, Mary Lou Chris,
71 Charlene Johnson and Marie Chatman; and a host of other relatives
72 and friends; and

73 WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the
74 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their
75 beloved family member in Revelation 21:4, wherein is recorded,
76 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there
77 shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall
78 there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" and
79 renewed in their faith that Mr. Bozeman fulfilled the commandment
80 of II Timothy 4:7 by having "fought a good fight, finishing his
81 course and keeping the faith until the hour of his departure was
82 at hand"; and

83 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
84 recognize and honor the lives of fine Mississippians, especially
85 those such as Mr. Morris Bozeman, a gracious, hard-working man who
86 loved his family, friends and community unconditionally, bringing
87 glory and honor to the State of Mississippi:

88 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
89 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
90 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Mr. Morris
91 Bozeman, and express deepest sympathy to his family and friends
92 upon his passing.



93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
94 furnished to the family of Mr. Morris Bozeman and to the members
95 of the Capitol Press Corps.

