

By: Representative Haney

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 141

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
2 LEGACY OF MR. CHRISTOPHER THOMAS BRUNI.

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

9 WHEREAS, the loving son of Jeff and Angela Bruni, Christopher
10 Thomas Bruni unexpectedly passed away at the young age of 22 on
11 July 31, 2022, and there is now a hush in our hearts as we come
12 together to pay our respects to the memory of those who have been
13 called to join that innumerable heavenly caravan; and

14 WHEREAS, born on June 19, 2000, Christopher attended Bayou
15 View Elementary and Middle Schools and graduated from Gulfport
16 High School in 2018 with a 3.9 GPA and class rank of 5th out of
17 375, and while at Gulfport High School (GHS), he served as student
18 body president, president of the Interact and Spanish Clubs, vice



19 president of the National Honor Society and Key Club, and he was a
20 4-year letterman on the GHS varsity men's soccer team; and

21 WHEREAS, Christopher was very passionate about soccer, and
22 during his senior year, he was selected as co-team Captain, and
23 went on to win the Mississippi High School Activities Association
24 (MHSAA) State Championship, was voted Most Valuable Player and
25 received the Ray Bishop Award for the highest GPA, and he was also
26 selected to the State Association of Coaches Varsity Boys All-Star
27 South Team and the Region 6A Varsity Team; and

28 WHEREAS, he began playing organized soccer, truly his
29 favorite sport, at the age of four with the Roadrunners rec team
30 and played on numerous select soccer teams with the South
31 Mississippi Soccer Club through his freshman year in college,
32 during which time his select teams won five state championships,
33 and he developed many valuable friendships across the state and
34 the southeast through this sport, including through his five-time
35 selection to the Mississippi Olympic Development team for his age
36 group; and

37 WHEREAS, in addition to excelling on the soccer pitch,
38 Christopher was also an Eagle Scout, an accomplishment of which he
39 was extremely proud, and he received many prestigious honors and
40 awards, including being named a state finalist for the Wendy's
41 High School Heisman, "Mr. Interact - Best Overall Male" and
42 Exchange Club Student of the Year for the State of Mississippi in



his senior year and was awarded the Samsung Scholarship Award for Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Christopher was inducted into the Gulfport High School Hall of Fame, served on the City of Gulfport Mayor's Youth Council, and was selected to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), where he later was chosen to serve as a counselor from 2018 through 2022; and

WHEREAS, Christopher went on to attend Millsaps College on an academic scholarship, where he majored in biochemistry and not only graduated summa cum laude with honors in May 2022, but also graduated having a perfect all-A academic career through high school and college and having passed his final comprehensive examination in biochemistry "with excellence," and his honors thesis (Synthesis of an Allosteric HIV Integrase Inhibitors based on a Pyridine Pharmacophore) was presented during his senior year and was eventually published; and

WHEREAS, while in college, Christopher continued to pursue his soccer dreams in addition to his academic ones, as he was a four-year starter on the Varsity Men's Soccer Team, and he was also a two-year Senator in the Student Body Association, a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, President of the Millsaps College Republicans and a member of the Millsaps Rotaract Club; and

WHEREAS, Christopher also received numerous awards in college, including the Joseph B. Price General Chemistry Award for



68 the highest GPA in chemistry, the Charles A. Preuss Pre-Medical
69 Scholarship (SAE National Foundation), the Physics Service Award
70 and the Chemistry Research Award, and he was a member of the
71 Omicron Delta Kappa, Sigma Lambda, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and Beta
72 Beta Beta honoraries, and was one of a few from Millsaps College
73 tapped into the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the oldest and most
74 prestigious academic honorary in the country, and he had been
75 selected into the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program
76 as he had been accepted into medical school at the University of
77 Mississippi Medical Center, with his medical school career set to
78 commence August 2022; and

79 WHEREAS, Christopher and his family are life-long members of
80 St. James Catholic Church in Gulfport, Mississippi, and in his
81 spare time, he enjoyed playing the piano, the violin, and the
82 guitar as well as running, playing soccer and tennis, and being
83 with his family and cats; and

84 WHEREAS, for 22 years, the State of Mississippi, the City of
85 Gulfport and thousands of others were touched by Christopher's
86 generous heart, broad smile and kind spirit, and he will be fondly
87 remembered by all those who had the opportunity to know him and
88 experience his greatness; and

89 WHEREAS, Christopher is survived by his parents; sister, Dr.
90 Catie Lee Bruni; his older brother, Jeff Bruni, Jr.; paternal
91 grandparents, Dr. Ron and Lee Bruni; maternal grandmother,
92 Charlene Dudley; aunts and uncles, Dr. Tim and Tracie Bruni and



93 their children, Colton, Cooper, Lexi and Cohen; Damian and
94 Jennifer Bruni and their children, Xavier and Blaise; Chrissy
95 Bruni Lane and her husband, Charlie and their children, Charlie,
96 Jr. and Ezra; Rodney and Ellen Dudley and their children, Ross,
97 Chase and Tye and their families; Ron and Dr. Sue Dudley
98 Cunningham and their children, Dr. Bryant Walker and Alana Walker
99 and their families; Dr. Dava Sue Cleveland; and Anna Marie Lenz
100 and her children; and a host of other relatives and friends; and

101 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
102 honor and commend the lives of genuine and selfless individuals,
103 especially those such as Mr. Christopher Thomas Bruni, whose
104 light, though prematurely extinguished like a candle in the wind,
105 illuminated the path of hope, faith and righteousness for all he
106 encountered along his brief earthly sojourn:

107 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
108 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
109 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Mr.
110 Christopher Thomas Bruni and express deepest sympathy to his
111 family and friends upon his passing.

112 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
113 furnished to the family of Christopher Thomas Bruni and to the
114 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

