

By: Representative Roberson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 187

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE AND DISTINGUISHED  
2 GENTLEMAN FROM SCOTT, REPRESENTATIVE TOM MILES, FOR HIS ESTEEMED  
3 LEGISLATIVE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
4 DEPARTURE FROM THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

5 WHEREAS, the honorable and distinguished Gentleman from  
6 Scott, Representative Tom Miles, has announced his plans for  
7 departure from the Mississippi House of Representatives at the  
8 conclusion of his current term, after tirelessly working on behalf  
9 of the citizens of Mississippi and House District 75, which  
10 encompasses portions of Scott and Rankin Counties, marking a  
11 triumphant end to 12 years of exceptional legislative service in  
12 the hallowed halls of the Mississippi State Capitol; and

13 WHEREAS, upon his election to the Mississippi House of  
14 Representatives in 2011, Representative Miles, a graduate of  
15 Morton High School and Mississippi State University, became the  
16 distinguished Gentleman from Scott upon being sworn into office on  
17 the first day of his first legislative session in January 2012,  
18 and wasted no time requesting the legislation, amendments and



19 reports that would help effectuate into law the policy changes  
20 that his constituents had elected him to further; and

21 WHEREAS, Representative Miles's love and deeply felt respect  
22 for the Legislature as a sacred institution is innately apparent  
23 in his welcoming and cordial disposition, which have served as  
24 beacons of hope in pursuits to preserve and nurture the integrity  
25 of the body for all legislators who equally hold a lion's share in  
26 the stake of advancing the direction of the state's economic,  
27 educational and political climate; and

28 WHEREAS, during his tenure as a legislator, Representative  
29 Miles has served as a member of numerous committees, such as:  
30 Accountability, Efficiency and Transparency; Insurance; Interstate  
31 Cooperation; Judiciary B; Judiciary En Banc; Energy; Wildlife,  
32 Fisheries and Parks; Public Health and Human Services; Public  
33 Property; Public Utilities; Tourism; and Transportation; and

34 WHEREAS, among the numerous significant legislation that was  
35 enacted during his service in the House, Representative Miles is  
36 most proud of authoring and ensuring the passage of the Blind  
37 Persons' Literacy Rights and Education Act as a freshman  
38 legislator in 2012, which resulted in mandating that Mississippi  
39 Public School Systems have children's books for children who are  
40 blind or visually impaired at the beginning of each school year,  
41 and provided for testing in braille for students who are blind or  
42 visually impaired, and remarkably, since the bill's passage, this  
43 law has been patterned in seven other states, and for his



44 extraordinary efforts, he was awarded the Community Service Award  
45 by The National Federation of the Blind of Mississippi; and

46 WHEREAS, looking back on his time in the Legislature,  
47 Representative Miles is also proud of other legislation that he  
48 personally supported or made important contributions to, including  
49 the passage of the bill that provided death benefits for law  
50 enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency management  
51 personnel, to ensure that the families of these public servants,  
52 who are unfortunately killed in the line of duty, will receive  
53 benefits that will hopefully ease some of the burden during  
54 difficult times; and

55 WHEREAS, notably, Representative Miles was awarded as a  
56 Champion for Children by Prevent Child Abuse Mississippi for his  
57 work on authoring and getting passed Erin's Law, which is a bill  
58 that was passed in the 2013 Legislative Session to protect  
59 children from sexual abuse; and

60 WHEREAS, during Representative Miles' time in the Mississippi  
61 Legislature, his constituents' needs were of crucial importance to  
62 him, and because of this, he advocated for his district's local  
63 schools by urging the ending of excessive testing of students; and  
64 promoted his district's local communities, law enforcement  
65 officers, volunteer firefighters and first responders; and he  
66 further worked to connect rural Mississippi with broadband  
67 Internet; revitalized the State Parks; and made mental health  
68 services a top priority at the Capitol; and



69 WHEREAS, not one to limit his community involvement to the  
70 Legislature, Representative Miles, owner of Tom Miles Tri-County  
71 Insurance Agency and AMT Wholesale Imports in Forest, has always  
72 been active in his district and dedicated to improving the quality  
73 of life for all citizens, as evidenced by his service and  
74 affiliation as a member of the Scott County Search and Rescue Dive  
75 Team, a founding member of the Mississippi Legislative First  
76 Responder Caucus, Forest Area Chamber of Commerce, Morton Chamber  
77 of Commerce, and the Rankin County Chamber of Commerce, and he is  
78 also past president of the Forest Area Chamber of Commerce and  
79 Forest Rotary Club, and is currently serving as chairman of  
80 Friends of Roosevelt State Park; and

81 WHEREAS, outside of his career and legislative service,  
82 Representative Miles enjoys spending time with family and friends,  
83 being active in local community events, watching local sporting  
84 events, supporting his Mississippi State Bulldogs, fishing with  
85 his dad and scuba diving; and

86 WHEREAS, the members of the House of Representatives will  
87 cherish the bond shared with Representative Miles over the course  
88 of the past 12 years, as he has remained a phenomenal gentleman,  
89 grounded in his integrity, who seeks to improve the lives of  
90 others through positive example, hard work and the undeniable  
91 truths of the Word of God; and

92 WHEREAS, the service of Representative Miles would be without  
93 honor but for the continued support, encouragement and love of his



94 family, who have endured the daunting struggles that accompany the  
95 life of an elected official, and much credit is certainly due to  
96 his loved ones who have sacrificed countless hours without him in  
97 order to allow him to fulfill his legislative obligations; and

98 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
99 honor the indelible legacy of remarkable service of our colleague  
100 and friend, Representative Tom Miles, who represented his  
101 district, this body and the people of this state with honor and  
102 dignity:

103 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
104 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
105 commend the most honorable, distinguished Gentleman from Scott,  
106 Representative Tom Miles, for his esteemed legislative career and  
107 public service, and express fondest respect and best wishes for  
108 continued success in all his future endeavors.

109 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
110 furnished to Representative Tom Miles and to the members of the  
111 Capitol Press Corps.

