

By: Representative Roberson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 205

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MOST HONORABLE, DISTINGUISHED
2 GENTLEMAN FROM MADISON, REPRESENTATIVE JOEL BOMGAR, FOR HIS
3 ESTEEMED LEGISLATIVE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE UPON THE OCCASION
4 OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

5 WHEREAS, the honorable and distinguished Gentleman from
6 Madison, Representative Joel Bomgar, has announced his plans to
7 retire 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 58, which
10 encompasses Madison County, for eight outstanding years; and

11 WHEREAS, before assuming his seat as a member of the House of
12 Representatives in 2016, Representative Bomgar, a 2003 graduate of
13 Belhaven University, founded Bomgar Corporation (now BeyondTrust),
14 while working his way through college as a systems engineer, and
15 created the concept for his company's remote support product, the
16 Bomgar Box, as a way to provide helpdesk and technical support to
17 disparate users without leaving his desk, and as the company
18 expanded and flourished, it remained focused on its Madison County



19 roots as one of the largest employers in the Madison/Ridgeland
20 area; and

21 WHEREAS, additionally, during his six years of service in the
22 Mississippi Air National Guard, Representative Bomgar honed his
23 networking and computer skills, and earned numerous network
24 certifications, along with the Air Force Achievement Medal and the
25 Air Force Commendation Medal; and

26 WHEREAS, after his election to the House of Representatives
27 in 2015, Representative Bomgar became the distinguished "Gentleman
28 from Madison" upon being sworn into office on the first day of his
29 first legislative session in January 2016, and he embraced being
30 in the Legislature like he does everything else, with exuberant
31 energy, and wasted no time requesting the drafting of legislation,
32 amendments and reports to try to enact into law the policies that
33 his constituents had elected him to pursue and promote; and

34 WHEREAS, during his time in the House, Representative Bomgar
35 served as Vice Chairman of the Medicaid Committee from 2016 until
36 2020, Vice Chairman of the Drug Policy Committee from 2020 until
37 2024, and as a member of numerous other committees, such as: Ways
38 and Means; Corrections; Education; Judiciary B; Judiciary En Banc;
39 Municipalities; Public Property; Technology; Youth and Family
40 Affairs; and Accountability, Efficiency and Transparency; and

41 WHEREAS, the primary issue with which Representative Bomgar
42 is most associated, and about which he was most passionate during
43 his legislative career, is medical marijuana, and the very first



44 bill that he introduced as a freshman member in 2016 was to create
45 a medical marijuana pilot program; and there was little interest
46 in passing such a bill at that time, but when he reintroduced his
47 bill in 2017 and 2018, more members were introducing their own
48 bills on the subject, and the support for authorizing medical
49 marijuana kept growing, which led to the overwhelming approval of
50 a constitutional initiative that legalized medical marijuana; and
51 while the initiative was struck down by the state Supreme Court
52 the following year, the Legislature responded during the 2022
53 session and enacted the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act, which
54 was the realization of Representative Bomgar's ambitious goal when
55 he introduced his first bill; and

56 WHEREAS, Representative Bomgar, who always wears a bright
57 orange tie to reflect the color used by his company, is a string
58 bean of energy who moves so quickly his edges nearly blur, and
59 with a strong work ethic, positive, energetic disposition, and
60 unrelenting tenacity, throughout his eight years in the
61 Legislature, Representative Bomgar has had a pertinacious focus
62 and unshakable drive to boldly serve his constituents, even if
63 doing so presented as going against the grain of the majority; and

64 WHEREAS, not one to limit his community involvement to the
65 Legislature, Representative Bomgar is an advocate for economic
66 growth and developmental efforts in Madison County, and dedicated
67 to improving the quality of life for all citizens, as evidenced by
68 his service and affiliation as Honorary Chairman of the Hazlitt



69 Coalition of Young Americans for Liberty, the founder of Out of
70 Last Place Institute in Mississippi, a member of the Steering
71 Council of Mississippi Economic Council's Blueprint Mississippi,
72 and a former board member of the Madison County Foundation and of
73 his alma mater, Belhaven University; and

74 WHEREAS, outside of his exceptional legislative service,
75 Representative Bomgar is the president of Próspera, an economic
76 development platform enabling sustainable, profitable growth in
77 partnership with governments and communities, empowering modern
78 pioneers to contribute to a new generation of flourishing cities
79 by partnering with community leaders, experts and firms across
80 various sectors to provide the knowledge, capital, connections,
81 infrastructure, services, and security needed for sustainable
82 economic development; and

83 WHEREAS, the service of Representative Bomgar would be
84 without honor but for the continued support, encouragement and
85 love of his family, who have endured the difficulties that
86 accompany the life of an elected official, and much credit is
87 certainly due to his loved ones who have sacrificed countless
88 hours without him in order to allow him to fulfill his legislative
89 obligations, including his wife, Rachel, and their children,
90 Amelia, Simon, Mark and Seth; and

91 WHEREAS, one of Representative Bomgar's favorite Bible
92 verses, Psalm 127:1, states "Unless the Lord builds the house,



93 those who build it labor in vain", and he believes that excellence
94 should be the hallmark of every Christian; and

95 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
96 honor the stellar service of public servants such as our colleague
97 and friend, Joel Bomgar, who represented his district, this body
98 and the people of this state with honor and dignity:

99 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
100 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
101 commend the Gentleman from Madison, Representative Joel Bomgar,
102 for his esteemed legislative career and public service, and
103 express best wishes for continued success in all his future
104 endeavors.

105 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
106 furnished to Representative Joel Bomgar and to the members of the
107 Capitol Press Corps.

