

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.

