

By: Representatives McGee, Watson, Byrd

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CHIEF PEGGY SEALY
2 UPON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS POLICE CHIEF OF THE
3 HATTIESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT.

4 WHEREAS, after 36 years of outstanding service and dedication
5 to the City of Hattiesburg, Chief Peggy Sealy is retiring from her
6 position as Police Chief of the Hattiesburg Police Department; and

7 WHEREAS, Chief Sealy was appointed as Hattiesburg's first
8 female police chief in late 2020 by Mayor Toby Barker, and prior
9 to her appointment, she served as assistant chief from 2017 until
10 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career, Chief Sealy
12 focused on recruitment and retention strategies, which resulted in
13 the largest pay increase for sworn personnel in a decade, and she
14 also continued a strong focus on community policing through summer
15 youth programming, bike patrol and neighborhood meetings; and

16 WHEREAS, Chief Sealy further continued a departmental push
17 for upgrades in the necessary technology to help the department
18 solve crime more efficiently and effectively, and she also led the



19 department through a transitional move from Klondyke Street to
20 its new \$30 million Public Safety Complex at James Street and Hall
21 Avenue; and

22 WHEREAS, throughout her career in law enforcement and public
23 safety, Chief Sealy faced dangerous situations each day that
24 demanded she put her life on the line, and each time the call
25 came, she fearlessly and bravely rushed into perilous predicaments
26 and responded to a variety of emergency events; and

27 WHEREAS, Chief Sealy has been well-loved by her community,
28 and her indomitable grit, dexterous abilities and passionate
29 determination will be dearly missed by all of her colleagues and
30 others who were fortunate to have the opportunity to work with her
31 and experience her greatness; and

32 WHEREAS, Chief Sealy will continue to lead the department
33 through the end of January 2024, and afterwards, she plans to
34 spend her days in retirement with her husband, retired police
35 officer, Don Sealy, while making more time for family and
36 traveling; and

37 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
38 pay tribute to great, heroic Mississippians such as Chief Sealy,
39 whose outstanding leadership, dauntless fortitude and unwavering
40 duty to protect and serve will always be remembered:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
42 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
43 recognize and commend Hattiesburg Police Chief Peggy Sealy for her



44 distinguished career, meritorious leadership and outstanding
45 service upon the occasion of her retirement, and extend sincere
46 wishes for her continued success in her lighter days ahead.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
48 furnished to Chief Peggy Sealy, and to the members of the Capitol
49 Press Corps.

