

By: Representative James-Jones

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 88

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING SHARKEY COUNTY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS  
2 "RECOVER, RECONNECT AND REBUILD" EVENT THAT COMMEMORATES THE  
3 RECOVERY EFFORTS OF SHARKEY COUNTY RESIDENTS AND HONORS THE LIVES  
4 OF THOSE LOST DURING THE MARCH 2023, TORNADOES AND THUNDERSTORMS.

5 WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023, Sharkey County, Mississippi, was  
6 devastated by a deadly, high-end EF 4 tornado and harsh  
7 thunderstorms that swept through Mississippi and Alabama; and

8 WHEREAS, Sharkey, Humphreys, Carroll and Monroe counties  
9 which comprise an agricultural hub for Mississippi's South Delta  
10 Region were hit the hardest by these storms; and

11 WHEREAS, the storm was the deadliest storm in the area  
12 in more than 52 years, with 22 total fatalities, 15  
13 fatalities in Sharkey County and more than 165 injuries;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, impacts to Public Sector and Public Facilities  
16 including all 23 critical facilities in Rolling Fork and  
17 Sharkey County were impacted; and



18 WHEREAS, pre-storm, there were 104 businesses, but post  
19 storm 58 businesses were damaged or destroyed, and while some  
20 vowed to rebuild, others have closed permanently; and

21 WHEREAS, Sharkey County's Historic Courthouse, the only  
22 administration building in the county was significantly  
23 damaged and remains closed; and

24 WHEREAS, 884 of the 1,689 houses in Sharkey county were  
25 damaged or destroyed leaving residents homeless and without  
26 alternatives for shelter; and

27 WHEREAS, the hospital was damaged beyond repair and is  
28 currently operating in inflatable tents within the Civic  
29 Center and the Nursing Home has been vacated and is being  
30 reconstructed; and

31 WHEREAS, the Sharkey-Issaquena County Library remains  
32 closed 12 months following this deadly storm and the  
33 elementary and high school have remained closed since the  
34 storm, the sheriff department's damaged or destroyed equipment  
35 has not been replaced and the Veteran Service Building still  
36 sits destroyed; and

37 WHEREAS, in spite of the overwhelming devastation throughout  
38 their community, the residents of Sharkey County committed  
39 themselves to recover, reconnect and rebuild; and

40 WHEREAS, in honor of that commitment, Sharkey County will  
41 host "Recover, Reconnect and Rebuild" on March 22, at the South  
42 Delta High School gymnasium to emphasize the continued recovery



43 efforts, connect citizens to much needed resources and continue to  
44 support rebuilding efforts; and

45 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate to stand with our citizens  
46 during distressing times and help them honor the lives of their  
47 friends, loved ones and fellow men:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
49 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
50 honor Sharkey County on the occasion of its "Recover, Reconnect  
51 and Rebuild" event that commemorates the recovery efforts of  
52 Sharkey County residents and remembers the lives of those lost  
53 during the March 2023, tornadoes and thunderstorms.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
55 furnished to the members of the Sharkey County Board of  
56 Supervisors and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

