

By: Representative Steverson

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 PEOPLES BANK OF RIPLEY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

3 WHEREAS, The Peoples Bank of Ripley, a locally owned
4 community bank with a rich heritage of serving the communities of
5 Tippah County, Mississippi, reaches an extraordinary milestone
6 this year when the financial institution proudly celebrates the
7 100th anniversary of its founding; and

8 WHEREAS, on April 23, 1925, The Peoples Bank of Ripley was
9 established when Ripley attorney and founder of the bank Fred
10 Smith helped a local family achieve its dream of opening a
11 much-needed bank by securing a charter from the State of
12 Mississippi to operate a commercial bank; and

13 WHEREAS, although born during dire times in our nation's
14 history marked by an unprecedented financial crisis, the new
15 financial institution gained its footing under the wise leadership
16 of board members, Mr. Smith as president, Erst Long, Orbrey
17 Street, J.C. Dixon and J.K. McBride, who also served as cashier,
18 and Mrs. Ruth Henson, the bank's first employee; and



19 WHEREAS, over the course of the last century, The Peoples
20 Bank of Ripley has not only survived every financial crisis
21 experienced by the United States from the Great Depression
22 triggered by the 1929 Wall Street crash to the more recent Great
23 Recession in 2008, the financial institution, which has grown from
24 a bare-bones bank to a countywide business with six convenient
25 branches and around 80 employees, has greatly expanded services
26 for businesses and individuals alike and grown its assets to well
27 over \$500 million; and

28 WHEREAS, The Peoples Bank of Ripley, which sold war bonds and
29 stamps during World War II to customers wishing to help in the war
30 effort, is long known for its generous charitable gifts of time
31 and money to the community, and over the years, the institution
32 has donated money toward municipal street signs, school computer
33 labs, scholarships, and so many other worthwhile causes that
34 today, employees of The Peoples Corporation guide donation
35 decisions as part of the organization's "charities group"; and

36 WHEREAS, notwithstanding its continued growth and success,
37 The Peoples Bank of Ripley, boasting 75% of the market share of
38 Tippah County, is steadfastly committed to meeting the needs of
39 the people it knows best -- the families and businesses who call
40 Tippah County home -- and to that end, the bank's unwavering focus
41 remains on going the extra mile to offer a top-notch personal
42 banking experience and those services that make the lives of their
43 customers easier; and



44 WHEREAS, on the occasion of the 100th year of unparalleled
45 continuous service by The Peoples Bank of Ripley to countless
46 fellow Mississippians, it is most appropriate to give special
47 recognition to this outstanding Mississippi institution which,
48 from its humble beginnings to this day, has been a constant source
49 of support and most importantly, strength and hope, in good times
50 and bad, for not only the bank's customers but the entire
51 community throughout Tippah County:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
53 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
54 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate The Peoples
55 Bank of Ripley on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its
56 founding and extend our sincerest wishes to the institution for
57 continued growth and prosperity for countless years to come.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
59 furnished to The Peoples Bank of Ripley and made available to the
60 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

