

By: Representative Scott

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 19

1       A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE,  
2 LEGACY, AND SERVICE OF MRS. MARY LEE PEARSON-FINCH, AND EXPRESSING  
3 DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HER PASSING.

4       WHEREAS, it is written in II Corinthians 4:17-18, "For our  
5 light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far  
6 more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at  
7 the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:  
8 for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which  
9 are not seen are eternal," and as such, the immaculate author and  
10 finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of  
11 dearly beloved, Mrs. Mary Lee Pearson-Finch, to eternal rest on  
12 Wednesday, January 29, 2025, rendering great sorrow and loss to  
13 her family and many friends; and

14       WHEREAS, the City of Laurel and the entirety of Jones County,  
15 Mississippi, lost a revered community pillar, with the passing of  
16 Mrs. Pearson-Finch, born on February 7, 1922, to her late parents,  
17 Mr. Johnny and Mrs. Lola Jordan, in Jones County, Mississippi, and  
18 there is now a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our

19 respects to the memory of one who has been called to join that  
20 innumerable heavenly caravan; and

21 WHEREAS, raised with a foundation of integrity, love,  
22 kindness, and compassion imparted by her parents, Mrs.  
23 Pearson-Finch confessed a hope in Christ under the Methodist  
24 faith, uniting with the Sunlight Baptist Church before later  
25 becoming a devoted member of Providence Baptist Church, where she  
26 faithfully served on the Mother's Board, as a Sunday School  
27 teacher, in the Women's Missionary Society, as President, and as a  
28 member of the senior and combined choirs; and

29 WHEREAS, initially educated at home before enrolling in  
30 Friendship School in the Hoy Community, Mrs. Pearson-Finch  
31 excelled academically, being named valedictorian of her 8th grade  
32 class and achieving high honors before transferring to Oak Park  
33 High School in Laurel, where she endured the setback of being  
34 placed in 9th grade upon transfer but persevered to graduate in  
35 1945; and

36 WHEREAS, a well-rounded student, Mrs. Pearson-Finch  
37 distinguished herself not only in academics but also as a star  
38 basketball player and choir singer alongside future operatic  
39 legend Leontyne Price; and

40 WHEREAS, her life's journey was blessed with the love and  
41 partnership of Mr. Elijah Pearson, whom she wed in 1945, and  
42 together they built a lifetime of memories and a legacy of love  
43 with nine children until his passing, and who, in divine

44 providence, was fortunate to experience love again with Mr. Alonzo  
45 Finch, whom she married in 1990, sharing life's joys and  
46 companionship until his passing in 2003; and

47 WHEREAS, a diligent worker and provider, Mrs. Pearson-Finch  
48 dedicated herself to supporting her family through employment with  
49 the Mayhall Canning Plant, Jones County Community Hospital (now  
50 South Central Regional Medical Center), Hilburn Poultry (now Wayne  
51 Poultry) and Masonite Hospital before concluding her working  
52 career with a 15-year return to Jones County Community Hospital,  
53 retiring in 1986; and

54 WHEREAS, an enterprising spirit even in retirement, Mrs.  
55 Pearson-Finch co-founded "Triple M Catering" with her daughters,  
56 showcasing her renowned baking skills before ultimately retiring a  
57 second time to enjoy fishing, quilting and watching TV game shows;  
58 and

59 WHEREAS, the matriarch of her family, Mrs. Pearson-Finch  
60 remained the nucleus and foundation of an unbreakable bond of  
61 love, honor, devotion and encouragement, sharing her wisdom and  
62 experiences while crediting her longevity to unwavering faith in  
63 God; and

64 WHEREAS, though she has traversed life's river to now stand  
65 upon the celestial shores in wonderment of Heaven's grandeur in  
66 glorious reunion with the kindred spirits of loved ones who

67 transitioned before her, the memories of Mrs. Pearson-Finch will  
68 continue to flourish in the hearts and lives of all who knew her,  
69 especially her children and grandchildren; and

70 WHEREAS, we encourage the Pearson-Finch family to find solace  
71 from these words recorded in II Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be the  
72 God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and  
73 God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that  
74 we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with  
75 the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."; and

76 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
77 commend the monumental life of genuine individuals like Mrs.  
78 Pearson-Finch, whose life was a testament to faith, family and  
79 community, which struck a melodious chord with all she encountered  
80 along her earthly sojourn:

81 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
82 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
83 mourn the loss, commemorate the life, service and legacy of Mrs.  
84 Mary Lee Pearson-Finch, and express deepest sympathy to her family  
85 and friends upon her passing.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
87 furnished to the family of Mrs. Mary Lee Pearson-Finch and to the  
88 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

