

By: Representatives Creekmore IV, Barton

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 23

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING HOME OF GRACE IN
2 VANCLEAVE, MISSISSIPPI, FOR 60 YEARS OF SERVICE AND CHRISTIAN
3 MINISTRY TO THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION.

4 WHEREAS, Home of Grace, located in Vancleave, Mississippi,
5 was founded in 1965, and now, upon the occasion of its 60th
6 anniversary, it continues to provide a nurturing and safe space
7 for the most vulnerable in the community who are recovering from
8 addiction; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1964, Reverend Bill Barton, Sr., while pastoring
10 a church in Pascagoula, Mississippi, took 13 men to a Christian
11 recovery program for alcoholics in Tallulah Falls, Georgia, called
12 the Victory Home, and while he was there, he became convinced God
13 was calling him to establish a home for alcoholics in Mississippi;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, out of obedience to what he believed to be God's
16 will for his life, he returned home and asked 18 men to be on the
17 board of directors for the Home of Grace, and Reverend Bill and



18 his wife, Jean, founded the Home of Grace to bring light into the
19 darkened lives of those who struggle with addiction; and

20 WHEREAS, soon, others in the community also became involved,
21 as E.H. Bacot donated 10 acres of land nestled on the banks of
22 Bluff Creek to the ministry, and a small house trailer was also
23 donated by C.D. and Norris Faggard; and

24 WHEREAS, in January 1965, even before there was electrical
25 power, the first man entered the Home of Grace, and since that
26 time, thousands of men, women and children have been served
27 through the ministries of the Home of Grace; and

28 WHEREAS, since 1965, the Home of Grace has continued to be a
29 light in the community, and it has provided a place for men and
30 women to seek refuge and renewal from a life of chaos and danger;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, the Bartons' vision of transforming hearts in order
33 to transform lives has remained the constant core of the Home of
34 Grace's success, and as one of the overriding evidences that
35 someone has a genuine relationship with the Lord is their
36 consistent attitude of joy and outlook on life, Bill and Jean
37 Barton have exemplified that joy and have freely given of
38 themselves so others may find the same joy; and

39 WHEREAS, each person who comes to the Home of Grace deserves
40 the utmost attention and God's intervention in their life, and
41 Home of Grace thanks God daily for the privilege of helping those



42 in need as well as for the faith that they will be able to serve
43 many more even more effectively in years to come; and

44 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
45 recognize and commend outstanding institutions in Mississippi,
46 especially those such as Home of Grace, which has provided
47 Christian counsel and refuge to thousands of Mississippians who
48 are struggling with addiction for the past 60 years, bringing
49 glory and honor to the State of Mississippi:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
51 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
52 recognize and commend Home of Grace in Vancleave, Mississippi, for
53 60 years of service and Christian ministry to those who are
54 struggling with addiction, and extend sincere wishes for their
55 continued services and counsel in the years to come.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
57 furnished to Home of Grace and to the members of the Capitol Press
58 Corps.

