

By: Representatives Scott (17th), Reynolds To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55
(As Adopted by House and Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. JOYCE NALL DORTCH
2 UPON HER RETIREMENT IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL WORK.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Joyce Nall Dortch, a longtime resident of
4 Jackson, Mississippi, will be retiring in the spring of 1999 with
5 40 years of dedicated experience in the field of social work; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dortch, born in Meridian, Mississippi, is the
7 daughter of Erma and Hardy Nall, who worked for the State Park
8 Commission; and

9 WHEREAS, after graduating from Clinton High School, Mrs.
10 Dortch earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Millsaps College and
11 a Master's of Social Work from Columbia University in New York;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, upon completion of her master's degree, Mrs. Dortch
14 returned to Mississippi, where she worked as a pediatric social
15 worker at the University of Mississippi Medical Center; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1969, Mrs. Dortch began working for the
17 Governor's Office as the Executive Director of the Governor's
18 Committee on Children and Youth and later as a Program Development
19 Specialist with the Governor's Office of Education and Training;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dortch has been an active Board member of
22 several organizations, including the YWCA, the Hinds County Mental
23 Health Association, the League of Women Voters, Mountain Retreat
24 Association, the Women's Political Network, and the Jackson
25 Voluntary Action Center, where she served as a founding director;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, in 1979, Mrs. Dortch became the Executive Director
28 of the Mississippi Chapter of the National Association of Social
29 Workers and has faithfully served in that capacity for the past 20
30 years; and

31 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dortch has served in a leadership role in
32 numerous professional organizations, such as the National
33 Association of Social Workers, the Academy of Certified Social
34 Workers, the Mississippi Conference on Social Welfare and the
35 Advisory Board at the University of Southern Mississippi School of
36 Social Work; and

37 WHEREAS, having received the Mississippi Social Worker of the
38 Year Award in 1974 and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the
39 Mississippi Chapter of the NASW in 1992, Mrs. Dortch helped start
40 the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Southern
41 Mississippi, the first graduate social work program in the state;
42 and

43 WHEREAS, currently serving as an Elder of Fondren
44 Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Dortch has also faithfully served in a
45 number of leadership positions at the local and national level in
46 the Presbyterian Church; and

47 WHEREAS, Mrs. Dortch has been lovingly supported in all her
48 endeavors by her husband of 38 years, Mr. Richard Dortch, their
49 children, Shannon and Richard, Jr., and one grandson, Peyton; and

50 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds it most appropriate to
51 recognize such an outstanding woman as Mrs. Joyce Nall Dortch, who
52 has given tirelessly of her time and outstanding leadership to
53 serve the people of this state in the field of social work:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
55 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
56 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mrs. Joyce Nall Dortch for her
57 40 years of service in the field of social work and extend to her
58 our heartiest wishes for many years of good health and happiness
59 upon her retirement.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
61 furnished to Mrs. Joyce Nall Dortch and the members of the Capitol
62 Press Corps.