

By: Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF REVEREND JOHNNIE B.
2 OWENS, SR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND
3 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Reverend Johnnie B. Owens, Sr., a native of
5 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, departed this life on January 31, 2000,
6 causing a great loss to his family and friends; and

7 WHEREAS, after serving in the United States Navy during World
8 War II, Reverend Owens completed his education at Priest Greek
9 School; and

10 WHEREAS, Reverend Owens worked as a truck driver for the City
11 of Hattiesburg and with West Brothers Trucking Company for many
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, Reverend Owens, who answered his call to the
14 Christian Ministry and was ordained in the late 1950's, pursued
15 his ministerial studies at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1963, Reverend Owens opened Owens Funeral Home,
17 becoming the first funeral home in the United States with a
18 "viewing of the body drive-thru"; and

19 WHEREAS, in the late 1970's, Reverend Owens relocated and
20 renamed his funeral home, changing the name to Owens and Sons
21 Funeral Home; and

22 WHEREAS, in the early 1980's, Reverend Owens founded Owens
23 Limousine Service and in 1995, he opened his second Owens and Sons
24 Funeral Home; and

25 WHEREAS, Reverend Owens is survived by his lovely wife, Linda
26 Ramey, and many other kind and loving family members:

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
28 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
29 commend the life and accomplishments of Reverend Johnnie B. Owens,
30 Sr., and express deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon
31 his passing.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
33 furnished to the family of Reverend Johnnie B. Owens and to the
34 members of the Capitol Press Corps.