

By: Representative Davis

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND
2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOHN DAVID MCELHANEY, SR., AND EXPRESSING
3 DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, John David McElhaney, Sr., born September 4, 1916,
5 the fourth child of Gideon McElhaney and Anna Pearl Myers of
6 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, departed this earthly life on September
7 7, 2000, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and friends;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, beginning his business career at the age of six by
10 selling papers and magazines on the street corner, Mr. McElhaney
11 had an eye for business and secured his first business loan at the
12 age of fifteen to finance fireworks sales; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. McElhaney possessed a strong work ethic and
14 throughout his lifetime had worked for Mississippi Power Company,
15 Southern Bell Telephone, Mississippi Central Railroad, United Gas
16 Company and Sears and Roebuck; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1948, Mr. McElhaney, along with his brothers and
18 sister, joined the McElhaney Plumbing Company, which was founded
19 by their father in 1926; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1939 he enlisted with the United States Navy, and
21 was aboard the USS New York in a convoy that landed the first
22 marines in Iceland in preparation for World War II; and

23 WHEREAS, he received a medical discharge in 1941, and on
24 December 9 of that year, he was united in holy matrimony to
25 Winifred Ellen Scott and to their union four children were born;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, appointed to serve on Governor Paul B. Johnson's
28 staff as a Colonel, Mr. McElhaney was twice honored by being named
29 to the list of Who's Who in Mississippi for the years of 1974 and
30 1991; and

31 WHEREAS, a faithful member of the Petal United Methodist
32 Church for forty-eight years, Mr. McElhaney was also active
33 throughout the community in civic and social involvements,
34 including: the Masonic Blue Lodge, the VFW, the American Legion,
35 the USM Alumni and Eagles Club, Young Men's Business Club which
36 dissolved to become the Noon Day Optimist Club, the Petal Optimist
37 Club and Petal Lions Club; and

38 WHEREAS, Mr. McElhaney will be sorely missed by all whose
39 life he touched in some manner, but above all his memory and
40 legacy will live on in the hearts, memories and spirits of those
41 who knew and loved him best, his survivors, including: his wife,
42 Winifred; four children, Sandra, Lynda, Jonee and David; one
43 sister, Louise Lewis; nine grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren
44 and a host of other relatives and friends; and

45 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to pay special
46 tribute to the lives of such an outstanding individual as Mr.
47 McElhaney, whose life, work ethic and warm generosity touched the
48 lives of so many:

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
50 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
51 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the life and accomplishments of
52 John David McElhaney, Sr., and express our deepest sympathy to his
53 family and friends upon his passing.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
55 furnished to Mrs. Winifred McElhaney and to the members of the
56 Capitol Press Corps.