

By: Representatives Huddleston, Evans, West

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 35

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PERCY  
2 LEE BREWER, SR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND  
3 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Percy L. Brewer, Sr., born February 26, 1931, to the  
5 late John and Janice Brewer, Sr., departed this earthly life on  
6 January 19, 2004, causing great sorrow and loss to his family and  
7 friends; and

8 WHEREAS, a prominent leader and activist in Tallahatchie  
9 County, Mississippi, during the Civil Rights Movement, Mr. Brewer,  
10 who was also a longtime member of the NAACP, was devoted to his  
11 beliefs in equality for all; and

12 WHEREAS, on August 19, 1964, Mr. Brewer, along with his two  
13 brothers, Eugene and Jessie, were the first blacks to enter the  
14 Tallahatchie County Courthouse to register to vote; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Brewer traveled to Washington, D.C., in order to  
16 bring the Civil Rights Movement to Tallahatchie County, and after  
17 returning, he, along with Gus McClinton, Jessie Thomas, Jessie  
18 Brewer and Bessie Tyler were the first to register their children  
19 into a segregated school under the Freedom of Choice Form; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Brewer's activism during the Civil Rights  
21 Movement was imperative to Project Headstart being brought into  
22 Tallahatchie County, working diligently along with other  
23 outstanding Civil Rights activists such as Margaret Block, Solomon  
24 Gort, Fannie Lou Hamer, Professor Gray, Jessie Brewer, Naomi  
25 Wiggins and Stokley Carmichael to name a few; and

26 WHEREAS, living a life of remarkable undertakings and even  
27 greater feats of success, Mr. Brewer's hope for an equally unified

28 nation and state paved the way for the future of Tallahatchie  
29 County; and

30 WHEREAS, a devoted and faithful member of the Old Bethel  
31 Missionary Baptist Church, Mr. Brewer was united in holy matrimony  
32 to the former Alzea Lee McKinley on July 9, 1954, and to their  
33 union 17 children were born; and

34 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
35 recognize and commend excellence in the lives of such outstanding  
36 individuals as Mr. Brewer, whose tireless devotion to the cause  
37 and furtherance of the Civil Rights Movement were monumental in  
38 the advancement of the rights of African Americans in Tallahatchie  
39 County:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
41 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
42 commend the life and accomplishments of Percy Lee Brewer, Sr., and  
43 express our deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his  
44 passing.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
46 furnished to Mr. Brewer's wife, Alzea Brewer, and to the members  
47 of the Capitol Press Corps.