

By: Senator(s) Thomas, Chaney, Clarke

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MRS. CLARA B.
2 JOHNSON OF YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI, THE 107-YEAR-OLD RECIPIENT OF
3 THE BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF MISSISSIPPI AGELESS HERO COMMUNITY
4 LEGACY AWARD.

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Clara B. Johnson of Yazoo City, Mississippi,
6 was one of 24 senior adults honored for sharing a rich legacy with
7 their communities by Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi as
8 ageless heroes; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson turned 107 years old on April 10, 2004,
10 and in receiving the "Good Neighbor" statewide award she was the
11 oldest award winner this year; and

12 WHEREAS, Clara B. Johnson, called the "Queen of Love" by
13 members of the community, has visited the local Head Start Program
14 to read and tell stories to the children, given speeches to teens
15 participating in the high school's character-building/abstinence
16 program, and ministered to inmates and staff at the local federal
17 prison. She says she keeps busy "working in my garden, cooking,
18 keeping in touch with friends and talking to people of all ages";
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was born April 10, 1897 to George and
21 Mattie Washington in Yazoo County, Mississippi. She is the oldest
22 of 15 children. Her only surviving sibling is her sister, Edna
23 House, who resides in California; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson and her late husband, Fred, had 8
25 children - 5 girls and 3 boys, there are 22 grandchildren, 40
26 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren; and

27 WHEREAS, "People ask me all the time how they can live as
28 long as I have," Mrs. Johnson said. "I always tell them, work

29 hard and enjoy life. It's God's blessing that I am still able to
30 be here"; and

31 WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was born before the New Capitol
32 Building was constructed in 1900-1903, and through the blessing of
33 God, she has lived during three centuries and is a priceless
34 living history, and it is with great pride that we acknowledge the
35 charitable and civic service of this Mississippian on this
36 auspicious event:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
38 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Mrs. Clara
39 Johnson of Yazoo City, Mississippi, the 107-year-old recipient of
40 the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Ageless Hero Community
41 Legacy Award in the category of "Good Neighbor" and wish her
42 continued success in her future endeavors.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
44 Mrs. Johnson and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.