

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM MOORE  
2 TOWNSEND AND EXTENDING OUR SYMPATHY ON HIS PASSING.

3 WHEREAS, William Moore Townsend was born on October 3, 1984,  
4 in Clarksdale, Mississippi, as a blessing to his family and  
5 departed this world on August 27, 2004, as a hero to many; and

6 WHEREAS, William was a 2003 graduate of Lee Academy where he  
7 ranked 11th out of 62 graduates with a 4.0 grade point average;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, not only was William an intelligent student, he was  
10 an active member of the First United Methodist Church Youth Group,  
11 Key Club, National Honor Society, Quill and Scroll, Odyssey of the  
12 Mind, Mock Trial Team and Lee's Math Competition; and

13 WHEREAS, William's intelligence and wonderful social skills  
14 were always complemented by his astute leadership abilities while  
15 serving as president of the National Junior Honor Society, vice  
16 president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, football  
17 manager, and winning the award as Best Attorney in a mock trial  
18 competition; and

19 WHEREAS, William received a number of honors throughout his  
20 life, such as the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference, the  
21 Rotary Youth Leadership Conference, American Legion Boys State,  
22 Exchange Club Student of the Month, Lee Academy Hall of Fame,  
23 Who's Who Among American High School Students, American Legion  
24 Good Citizenship Award, and Clarksdale Rotary Club Chester Curtis  
25 Award; and

26           WHEREAS, William was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity  
27 and received the Peery Accounting Scholarship while he was a  
28 student at the University of Mississippi; and

29           WHEREAS, on the day of William's heroic departure from this  
30 life, he ran through his burning fraternity house to awaken his  
31 fraternity brothers so that they could escape harm and, with  
32 complete disregard for his own life and safety, rushed back into  
33 the house to save the life of a friend; and

34           WHEREAS, William's heroic efforts will forever remain in the  
35 minds of those he saved; and

36           WHEREAS, his unselfish example of courage and compassion for  
37 his fellowman were above and beyond the call of duty; and

38           WHEREAS, to cherish his memory, he leaves his parents, James  
39 and Vida Townsend of Clarksdale, sister, Ellen Townsend, and  
40 grandmother, Rose Townsend:

41           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
42 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
43 THEREIN, That we commend the life of a hero in William Moore  
44 Townsend and extend our sympathy on his passing.

45           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
46 furnished to the family and friends of William Moore Townsend, the  
47 University of Mississippi, and members of the Capitol Press Corps.