

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 53

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING COLONEL
2 JAMES E. "ERIK" HEARON UPON HIS PROMOTION TO BRIGADIER GENERAL.

3 WHEREAS, the former Colonel James E. "Erik" Hearon, who is
4 Chief of Staff at the Mississippi Air National Guard Headquarters,
5 was recently promoted to Brigadier General, effective December 26,
6 2005; and

7 WHEREAS, as Chief of Staff he assists the Commander and
8 Adjutant General in formulating, developing, and coordinating all
9 programs, policies, and plans ensuring the combat readiness of an
10 air-refueling wing, an airlift wing, and a combat readiness
11 training center which includes combat communication and civil
12 engineering squadrons; and

13 WHEREAS, the general entered the Mississippi Air National
14 Guard in January 1970, and after receiving his bachelor of arts
15 degree in accounting from Millsaps College, he was commissioned in
16 July of the same year; and

17 WHEREAS, having graduated from undergraduate pilot training
18 at Williams Air Force Base, Arizona, in 1972, General Hearon has
19 served as an aircraft commander in the C130E, C130H, C141B and
20 C141C and instructor pilot in the C141B and C141C at the 172nd
21 Airlift Wing in Jackson, Mississippi; and

22 WHEREAS, prior to assuming his current assignment, General
23 Hearon was appointed Commander, 186th Air Refueling Wing, Key
24 Field, Meridian, Mississippi, in September 2003; and

25 WHEREAS, during Desert Shield/Desert Storm, General Hearon
26 was activated for just under one year and flew multiple strategic
27 airlift missions to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Israel and Europe; served

28 as European Strategic Inter-theater Deployments (ESID) Commander
29 at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, October 26 through December 4,
30 2001; served as Director of Mobility Forces (DIRMOBFOR) for 1AF at
31 Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, December 6, 2001, until January
32 17, 2002; served in a forward deployed location in Southwest Asia
33 as Director of the Regional Air Movement Control Center (RAMCC) -
34 Afghanistan and Iraq, November 28, 2002, until July 20, 2003; and

35 WHEREAS, with more than 5,700 hours of total flying time on
36 log, General Hearon is highly decorated, having the following
37 awards and decorations: Legion of Merit, Airman's Medal, Bronze
38 Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters,
39 Air Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air
40 Force Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force
41 Outstanding Unit Award with 10 oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness
42 Medal with 11 oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal
43 with two service stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal,
44 Southwest Asia Service Medal with three service stars, Global War
45 on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service
46 Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster,
47 Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Air Force Overseas
48 Ribbon-Short with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Longevity
49 Service Ribbon with eight oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve
50 Medal with gold hourglass and four M devices, Air Force
51 Expeditionary Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kingdom of
52 Saudi Arabia) and a Kuwait Liberation Medal (Emirate of Kuwait);
53 and

54 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
55 and commend excellence as exhibited by our state's servicemen,
56 especially one possessing such skill and expertise as General
57 Hearon:

58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
59 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
60 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Brigadier

61 General James E. "Erik" Hearon upon his recent promotion and
62 extend our warmest wishes for continued success in all of his
63 future endeavors.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
65 furnished to General Hearon and to the members of the Capitol
66 Press Corps.