

By: The Entire Membership

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 65

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE AND BRAVE LIFE OF MR.
2 ANDREW JACKSON REESE AND EXPRESSING OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY UPON HIS
3 PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, when Mr. Andrew Jackson Reese, Jr., died at the age
5 of 98, he took a rich history of battle in war and bravery with
6 him; and

7 WHEREAS, his path to bravery began when the news reports of
8 World War II surfaced and Mr. Reese did not wait to be drafted,
9 but enlisted at the age of 30; and

10 WHEREAS, he was inducted at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, on June
11 13, 1942, arrived in France 36 hours after D-Day, and fought
12 battles in Northern France and Shireland, France; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1944, Mr. Reese was wounded in the line of duty
14 when artillery shell fragments penetrated his thigh; and

15 WHEREAS, although Mr. Reese was treated during a three-day
16 stay at a military hospital, the shrapnel was never removed and he
17 lived the remainder of his life with the shrapnel in his thigh;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, on the third night of his return to battle in
20 France, his battalion was captured by Germans, marched across the
21 Rhine to a prisoner-of-war (POW) camp in Southern Germany and
22 later to Northern Germany to a special interrogation camp; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Reese's endurance was tested while at the
24 special interrogation camp, where he was thrown into a "black box"
25 the size of a coffin for 10 days and given only three-fourths cup
26 of coffee a day to drink; and

27 WHEREAS, once he was released from the "black box," he was
28 given rations of three potatoes to eat every other day, and water
29 was so scarce during his imprisonment that he had to catch
30 rainwater to drink; and

31 WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States, Mr. Reese's
32 bravery was recognized by the awards of a number of medals, such
33 as, the Purple Heart Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern
34 Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, American Campaign
35 Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal,
36 Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star
37 Medal, Honorable Service Lapel Button with Carbine Bar and Expert
38 Badge with Mortar Bar; and

39 WHEREAS, after the war, Mr. Reese studied law under the
40 guidance of practicing attorneys so he could fulfill his strong
41 desire to continue helping the citizens of this country; and

42 WHEREAS, as a result of his long hours of study, Mr. Reese
43 passed the bar on March 10, 1947, and was one of the last people
44 to pass the bar without going to college; and

45 WHEREAS, he practiced law in Quitman for 55 years, was the
46 Municipal Judge for Quitman for 11 years, and was the Clarke
47 County Board Attorney for 18 years; and

48 WHEREAS, Mr. Reese not only served the community legally, he
49 was also an active member of the DeSoto Baptist Church and a 32nd
50 Degree Mason of Scottish Rights; and

51 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
52 recognize and commend bravery and loyalty by citizens such as Mr.
53 Reese:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
55 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
56 commend the honorable and brave life of Mr. Andrew Jackson Reese
57 and express deepest sympathy to his family upon his passing.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
59 furnished to the family of Mr. Andrew Jackson Reese and to the
60 members of the Capitol Press Corps.