

By: Representatives Reynolds, Cockerham,  
Robinson (63rd), Smith (27th), Watson,  
Whittington

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 113

1 A RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SLAVE  
2 TRADE ACT AND COMMENDING THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT FOR HAVING THE  
3 FORESIGHT TO FREE THE ENSLAVED.

4 WHEREAS, March 25, 2007, marked the 200th Anniversary of the  
5 enactment of the Slave Trade Act; and

6 WHEREAS, the British Parliament voted in favor of the Slave  
7 Trade Act on February 23, 1807, the bill received Royal Assent and  
8 became law on March 25, 1807; and

9 WHEREAS, the act was the lifelong mission of William  
10 Wilberforce that prohibited ships from transporting slaves; and

11 WHEREAS, William Wilberforce was a member of the British  
12 House of Commons who fought for 20 years to pass legislation  
13 banning the slave trade; and

14 WHEREAS, as a result of his efforts, on February 23, 1807,  
15 the British Parliament passed a bill banning the slave trade in  
16 the British Empire and in 1833, the House of Commons voted to  
17 abolish slavery altogether; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilberforce's passion and commitment to end the  
19 British slave trade and renew the culture solidified the inherency  
20 of human dignity and sanctity of human life; and

21 WHEREAS, he became an evangelical Christian at age 25 within  
22 the Anglican Church and when he learned of the evils of slave  
23 trade, he devoted his life to its abolition and wrote, "So  
24 enormous, so dreadful, so irremediable did the Trade's wickedness  
25 appear that my own mind was completely made up for abolition"; and

26 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
27 recognize and commend historical acts such as the abolition of the

28 Slave Trade which was a catalyst to abolishing slavery in other  
29 parts of the world:

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
31 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we celebrate the  
32 200th Anniversary of the Slave Trade Act and commend the British  
33 Parliament for having the foresight to free the enslaved.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
35 furnished to the members of the Capital Press Corps.