

By: Representatives Middleton, Johnson,  
Holloway, Cockerham

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 116

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, LEGACY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
2 OF MRS. BERTHA H. SMITH AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER  
3 FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HER PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bertha Hutchins Smith, affectionately known as  
5 Mother Smith, departed this earthy life on September 14, 2006, at  
6 the age of 99, to enter into eternal rest, causing great sorrow  
7 and loss to her family and many friends; and

8 WHEREAS, Mother Smith was born on October 24, 1906, in  
9 Natchez, Mississippi, to her loving parents, Lavinia Miller and  
10 Jerry Hutchins; and

11 WHEREAS, reared with love, Mother Smith received her  
12 education in Adams County, and due to her staunch work ethic, she  
13 was employed as a domestic worker until she retired; and

14 WHEREAS, Mother Smith, a born-again Christian, confessed and  
15 accepted Christ as her personal Savior in 1920 under the  
16 leadership of Reverend Sims; and

17 WHEREAS, baptized at Morning Star Baptist Church where she  
18 was a faithful member of the Mother's Board until her health  
19 failed, Mother Smith served as a role model for both the young and  
20 the old of the congregation; and

21 WHEREAS, Mother Smith was married to the late Andrew Smith,  
22 Sr., and to this holy union the following eight children were  
23 born: Hannah, Willie and Clarence, the late Andrew, Bertha and  
24 Henry and infants Willie B. and Martha; and

25 WHEREAS, always the source of unwavering strength and  
26 encouragement, Mother Smith was known to have a kind word and to  
27 help anyone who was in need; and

28           WHEREAS, although Mother Smith has crossed the river of life  
29 to now stand on golden heavenly shores, the legacy of her memory  
30 will continue to live in the hearts of her survivors; and

31           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
32 commend the life of such an inspiring and caring individual as  
33 Mrs. Bertha Hutchins Smith whose life was a beacon of light,  
34 strength and love:

35           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
36 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
37 commend the life and legacy of Mrs. Bertha H. Smith and express  
38 deepest sympathy to her family and friends upon her passing.

39           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
40 furnished to the family of Mrs. Bertha Hutchins Smith and to the  
41 members of the Capitol Press Corps.