

By: Representative Carpenter

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING FRIENDS OF MISSISSIPPI
2 VETERANS FOR ITS TREMENDOUS PHILANTHROPIC WORK ON BEHALF OF
3 MISSISSIPPI VETERANS AND EXPRESSING GREAT APPRECIATION TO MR. JACK
4 WINSTEAD FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF VISIONARY LEADERSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, in 2007, Friends of Mississippi Veterans was
6 established for the purpose of providing much needed support to
7 our state's veterans with Jack H. Winstead at the helm as Board
8 President; and

9 WHEREAS, recognizing there was a need with more than 200,000
10 veterans in Mississippi, one of the first priorities of the
11 organization was to provide leadership for the creation of a
12 veterans cemetery; and

13 WHEREAS, Jack led the charge to create peaceful places of
14 remembrance for Mississippi veterans and worked tirelessly over
15 the years to lead or facilitate Friends of Mississippi Veterans in
16 making that goal a reality; and

17 WHEREAS, today, two beautiful cemetery locations exist in
18 Newton and Kilmichael, Mississippi, to lay Mississippi's brave
19 soldiers to rest; and



20 WHEREAS, Friends of Mississippi Veterans also promotes
21 interest in the Mississippi State Veterans Board and provides
22 support for the state veterans nursing homes and the Mississippi
23 Veterans Memorial Cemetery, and offers assistance for construction
24 and improvements to veterans' nursing homes, as well as covering
25 expenses related to the veterans cemeteries; and

26 WHEREAS, Stephen Cole now leads this distinguished
27 organization in its mission to support nursing homes, but Jack H.
28 Winstead, has remained active throughout the years as Board
29 President mainly, but now serves as a member of the board; and

30 WHEREAS, ever passionate about the environment of the state,
31 Jack also serves as a consultant to Mississippi Commissioner of
32 Agriculture and Commerce, Andy Gipson, on Water Management and
33 Natural Resources and as a Commissioner for the Department of
34 Environmental Quality; and

35 WHEREAS, he is married to his loving wife Jeanette, and they
36 are active members of First Baptist Church of Fannin with a
37 bustling family of four adult children, seven grandchildren and
38 four great-grandchildren; and

39 WHEREAS, a graduate of Mississippi State University, Jack
40 earned his bachelor of science degree in agriculture and completed
41 his graduate work at Mississippi State University and University
42 of Oklahoma; and

43 WHEREAS, since accomplishing its goal of creating the
44 cemeteries, the organization's focus has turned to the care of



45 veterans in our four state nursing homes, as well as participation
46 in the Wreaths Across America national program; and

47 WHEREAS, approximately 600 male and female veterans reside in
48 our state nursing homes, which are located in Collins, Jackson,
49 Kosciusko, and Oxford; and

50 WHEREAS, each year in November in connection with Veterans
51 Day, these homes are visited by Friends of Mississippi Veterans
52 volunteers and the resident veterans are presented with a gift in
53 appreciation for their service; and

54 WHEREAS, in December of each year, Friends of Mississippi
55 Veterans sponsor the Wreaths Across America program at the Newton
56 and Kilmichael cemeteries and place live Christmas wreaths on
57 every single veteran's grave in both cemeteries, making it a
58 stunning display of honor to our state's brave military men and
59 women who are buried there; and

60 WHEREAS, this annual fundraiser, in collaboration with the
61 Mississippi State Veterans Affairs Board and the Mississippi State
62 Veterans Homes, supports our Mississippi Veterans and our four
63 Mississippi Veterans Homes; and

64 WHEREAS, it is most appropriate to honor fine organizations
65 driven by a mission to serve the brave United States soldiers who
66 have risked their lives for us during a vulnerable time in their
67 lives:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby



70 commend Friends of Mississippi Veterans for its tremendous
71 philanthropic work on behalf of Mississippi veterans and express
72 great appreciation to Mr. Jack Winstead for his many years of
73 visionary leadership during his time as Board President.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
75 furnished to Friends of Mississippi Veterans, Mr. Jack H.
76 Winstead, Mr. Stephen Cole and to the members of the Capitol Press
77 Corps.

