

By: Representative Carpenter

To: Rules

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
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, Mr. Winstead continues to lead the organization in  
27 its mission to support nursing homes, and has been diligently and  
28 faithfully supported by individuals like Stephen Cole and other  
29 board members; 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, the annual fundraiser in the fall of each year, in  
61 collaboration with the Mississippi State Veterans Affairs Board  
62 and the Mississippi State Veterans Homes, supports our Mississippi  
63 Veterans and our four 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.

