

By: Representatives Smith, Horne, Zuber,
Yancey

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 57

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS, COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
2 ESTEEMED, LAUDABLE LEGISLATIVE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF FORMER
3 REPRESENTATIVE BENJAMIN ERIC ROBINSON, SR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST
4 SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is written in II Corinthians 4:17-18, "For our
6 light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far
7 more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at
8 the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:
9 for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which
10 are not seen are eternal," and as such, the immaculate author and
11 finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of the
12 honorable and distinguished Gentleman from Panola, former
13 Representative Benjamin Eric Robinson, Sr., who selflessly
14 represented House District 84, which encompassed portions of
15 Clarke, Jasper, Lauderdale and Newton Counties for a total of 14
16 years, as he has made life's final transition from earthly
17 travelling to heavenly reward on Friday, May 26, 2023, rendering
18 great sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and



19 WHEREAS, the Quitman community, and the entirety of Clarke
20 County lost a wonderful friend, charismatic leader, venerable and
21 avid outdoorsman with the passing of Representative Robinson, born
22 to his late parents, Mr. Glynn Robinson and Mrs. Gertie Bell
23 Martin Robinson, on December 7, 1949, in Mobile, Alabama, and
24 there is now a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our
25 respects to the memory of one who has been called to join that
26 innumerable heavenly caravan; and

27 WHEREAS, Robinson, grew up the son of merchant and
28 entrepreneur parents, and after graduating from high school,
29 attended Jones County Junior College and the University of
30 Southern Mississippi and served six years with the Mississippi Air
31 National Guard 186th Refueling Wing; and

32 WHEREAS, before assuming his seat as the member of the
33 Mississippi Legislature, Eric, began his career by honing his
34 managerial skills at IGA grocery store in Stonewall, before
35 transitioning to become an insurance agent for several companies,
36 and ultimately served his community as an alderman for the City of
37 Quitman for several terms, a capacity in which his diplomatic
38 rapport was widely received by those who would eventually elect
39 him to serve as their ambassador and voice in the Mississippi
40 House of Representatives; and

41 WHEREAS, the Honorable Benjamin Eric Robinson, Sr., began his
42 legislative service in 1993, becoming the distinguished Gentleman
43 from Clarke upon being sworn into office on the first day of his



44 first legislative session in January 1994, and wasted no time
45 requesting the legislation, amendments and reports that would help
46 effectuate into law the ideologies and policy changes that his
47 constituents had elected him to further; and

48 WHEREAS, Robinson utilized the wisdom and experience he
49 accrued over the years, as a manager coupled with the discipline
50 of his military training, to guide him in his duties as Chairman
51 of the House Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Committee and as a
52 member of Hurricane Recovery, Insurance, Judiciary B, Local and
53 Private Legislation, Select Committee on Accessible and Affordable
54 Medical Malpractice Insurance and Ways and Means Committees of the
55 House; and

56 WHEREAS, throughout the years, Representative Robinson
57 capitalized on his leadership skills, sharing his wealth of
58 knowledge as a member of the Clarke County Chamber of Commerce,
59 former insurance agent, broker and homebuilder, member of the
60 Quitman JayCee's, Quitman Small Business Association, NRA and a
61 former appointee by President Ronald Reagan to the Selective
62 Service System Board and as a tree farmer and landlord; and

63 WHEREAS, while Representative Robinson was favored with many
64 opportunities both far and near, his heart of devotion belonged to
65 that of his first love and darling wife, Mrs. Teresa Irby
66 Robinson, who, in accordance with the blueprint divinely designed
67 for the pattern of Eric's life by the Great Deity and grand
68 architect of our lives' destiny, won her suitor's heart with her



69 warm disposition, beautiful smile, genteel nature, and with whom
70 he embarked upon a remarkable journey of love which was
71 highlighted with sparks of joy with the addition of two children
72 and four grandchildren; and

73 WHEREAS, Representative Robinson led a life of bravery in
74 the face of challenge, sincerity in the face of apathy and honesty
75 in the presence of deceit, and through it all, this remarkable
76 person has remained a phenomenal gentleman, grounded in his
77 integrity, who sought to improve the lives of others through
78 positive example, hard work and the undeniable truths of the Word
79 of God, as evidenced through his faith walk at First Baptist
80 Church of Quitman and member of the Co-Ed 3 Sunday School Class;
81 and

82 WHEREAS, though he has traversed life's river to now stand
83 upon the celestial shores in wonderment of Heaven's grandeur in
84 glorious reunion with the kindred spirits who transitioned before
85 him, the legacy of Representative Robinson's indelible imprint
86 upon our lives will continue to refresh the hearts and fond
87 memories of his beloved survivors: his wife, Teresa Irby
88 Robinson; son, Benjamin Eric "Ben" Robinson, Jr.; daughter, Brandi
89 Nicole Robinson Kennedy; grandchildren, Elijah Hayes Kennedy, John
90 Carter Kennedy, Brady Glynn Robinson and Benjamin Chase Robinson;
91 sister, Ramona R. Smith; and several nieces, nephews, extended
92 family members and friends; and



93 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to honor the
94 laudable legacy of remarkable service of our former colleague and
95 friend, Representative Eric Robinson, who represented his
96 district, this body and the people of this state with honor and
97 intrepid dignity, and whose monumental life of genuine
98 selflessness illuminated the path of hope for all he encountered
99 along this earthly sojourn:

100 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
101 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
102 mourn the loss and commemorate the esteemed and laudable
103 legislative career and public service of the most honorable,
104 distinguished Gentleman from Clarke, former Representative
105 Benjamin Eric Robinson, Sr., to whose family we express sincere
106 and deepest sympathy upon his passing.

107 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
108 furnished to the family of former Representative Benjamin Eric
109 Robinson, Sr., and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

