

By: Senator(s) Horhn, Simmons, Huggins,
Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 565

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ROEBUCK
2 "POPS" STAPLES UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXCELLENCE IN
3 THE ARTS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

4 WHEREAS, as a child in Winona, Mississippi, "Pops" Staples
5 began his musical journey with the sounds of gospel stirring his
6 heart and soul; and

7 WHEREAS, "Pops" moved into the world of blues as a teenager
8 when he began to listen to artists such as Barbeque Bob Hicks,
9 Blind Lemon Jefferson and Memphis Slim, and after learning to play
10 the guitar as a sixteen-year-old, he began to form his own style
11 of music by blending the blues guitar with gospel material; and

12 WHEREAS, "Pops" mastered this technique while playing with
13 the Golden Trumpets in Mississippi and later with the Trumpet
14 Jubilees in Chicago, Illinois; and

15 WHEREAS, after several years on the gospel tour, he joined
16 with his son and two daughters to form The Staple Singers, a group
17 that has performed for five decades and achieved remarkable
18 success; and

19 WHEREAS, in the 1960s, they moved from the world of
20 traditional gospel into message music that reflected the teachings
21 of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

22 WHEREAS, the rise of acclaim for "Pops" Staples and The
23 Staple Singers continued to grow with the numerous hit songs they
24 recorded during the 1960s and 1970s; and

25 WHEREAS, as a solo performer "Pops" recorded "Peace to the
26 Neighborhood," featuring such artists as Bonnie Raitt, Jackson

27 Browne and Ry Cooder, and released his CD "Father, Father," which
28 garnered a nomination for the 1995 Contemporary Blues Album of the
29 Year, and he performed live in Drew, Mississippi, for the Second
30 Annual "Pops" Staples Park Festival with John Fogerty following
31 the dedication of the "Pops" Staples Park, and he also contributed
32 to the Rhythm, Country and Blues Album project with "The Weight,"
33 performed by The Staples Singers and Marty Stuart; and

34 WHEREAS, the fusion of gospel and blues in the music of
35 "Pops" is evident today as he records new material for release;
36 and

37 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this native
38 Mississippian for his considerable lifetime contribution to gospel
39 and blues music and to the quality of life in our state:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
41 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
42 we do hereby commend and congratulate Roebuck "Pops" Staples upon
43 his receipt of the Governor's Excellence in the Arts Lifetime
44 Achievement Award.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
46 Mr. Staples at the awards ceremony on March 19, 1999, and be made
47 available to members of the Capitol Press Corps.