

By: Middleton

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CROSSROADS QUILTERS
2 UPON RECEIVING THE 2000 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE
3 ARTS HERITAGE AWARD.

4 WHEREAS, the Crossroads Quilters will receive the 2000
5 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts Heritage Award on
6 March 17, 2000; and

7 WHEREAS, the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts is
8 a program coordinated by the Mississippi Arts Commission and
9 hosted by Governor and Mrs. Ronnie Musgrove; and

10 WHEREAS, the Crossroads Quilters is a group of women, most of
11 them African-Americans, who have banded together to nurture,
12 extend and promote Mississippi's heritage of traditional quilting;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the Crossroads Quilters grew out of efforts by
15 Mississippi Cultural Crossroads, a local arts agency in Claiborne
16 County, to revitalize the traditional craft of quilting and create
17 a wider appreciation for this important cultural heritage; and

18 WHEREAS, the Crossroads Quilters celebrate the traditional
19 heritage of quilting of their community while creating educational
20 and economic opportunities for its citizens; and

21 WHEREAS, each quilter is a craftsperson in her own right,
22 making the myriad decisions about material, design, color,
23 technique and spirit that mark each quilt as the unique product of
24 a vision that is both individual and shared; and

25 WHEREAS, having received numerous awards, Crossroads Quilters
26 was selected to demonstrate traditional quilting for two weeks at

27 the Smithsonian Institution's 1996 Festival of American Folklife,
28 at the 1996 Cultural Olympiad in Centennial Park in Atlanta, at
29 the 1996 annual convention of the National Association of Local
30 Arts Agencies in St. Louis and at a 1999 international fabric art
31 symposium, "Common Threads: Creating a Cloth for Empowerment" at
32 the Smithsonian Institution; and

33 WHEREAS, the Southern Arts Federation is currently
34 circulating to museums in nine southern states, as part of its
35 Southern Visions program, an exhibit of 15 quilts and 15
36 photographs titled "Crossroads Quilters: Stitching the Community
37 Together":

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
39 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
40 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the Crossroads Quilters upon
41 receiving the 2000 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts
42 Heritage Award.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
44 furnished to the Crossroads Quilters and to the members of the
45 Capitol Press Corps.