

By: Farris, King

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 565

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MISS
2 SARAH GILLESPIE OF HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI, FOR BEING THE
3 RECIPIENT OF THE ARTS PATRON AWARD OF THE 2000 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS
4 FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS.

5 WHEREAS, Miss Sarah Gillespie, a native of Hattiesburg,
6 Mississippi, is the recipient of the Arts Patron Award category of
7 the 2000 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts sponsored by
8 the Mississippi Arts Commission and hosted by Governor and Mrs.
9 Musgrove, in ceremonies to be held March 17, 2000; and

10 WHEREAS, Miss Sarah Gillespie, a graduate of Sophie Newcomb
11 College, has many interests including conservation of historic
12 buildings, feature writing, gardening and nature conservation;
13 but, her interest in regional art is her passion; she has been a
14 patron of the arts, especially the visual arts, in Mississippi for
15 56 years. As a patron she has encouraged the individual artist,
16 while also making Mississippi art and arts education available to
17 the public; and

18 WHEREAS, Miss Gillespie began collecting works of established
19 Mississippi artists including Marie Hull, Karl Wolfe, William
20 Hollingsworth and Walter Anderson, in 1943. She didn't limit her
21 devotion to merely collecting art; she became involved with the
22 artists. She became their friend, visiting them, corresponding
23 with them and encouraging them to continue with their work; as
24 these artists matured, so did Miss Gillespie's collection, which
25 today illustrates the growth of many artists throughout their
26 careers.

27 WHEREAS, over the years, Miss Gillespie has extended her

28 collection to include the work of those she describes as "talented
29 new artists with potential." Once again her patronage extended
30 beyond purchases to include visits to the artist's studios and
31 personal encouragement. Miss Gillespie's collection now includes
32 more than 350 works by 20th Century Mississippi artists. During
33 the past 20 years, she donated a substantial number of pieces to
34 William Carey College, helped establish the Lucile Parker Gallery
35 on the college's Hattiesburg campus, endowed a chair in art at the
36 college and occasionally lent other works for display at the
37 college; and

38 WHEREAS, Miss Gillespie recently decided to extend her
39 patronage by underwriting the renovation of a building on William
40 Carey's Gulf Coast campus to serve as a permanent gallery, thus
41 making her entire collection accessible to the public. The Sarah
42 Gillespie Gallery on the William Carey College Gulf Coast campus
43 is now displaying selections from her collection and was
44 officially dedicated on September 21, 1999. Overlooking the Gulf,
45 the new Sarah Gillespie Gallery offers a beautiful space of
46 exhibitions, storage and reception areas. The gallery is an
47 integral part of the college's art department, providing a special
48 location for student exhibit. This is the place where young
49 artists will first display their artwork on the way to a promising
50 career; and

51 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
52 individual who has donated so much to the arts and thereby brought
53 honor to her community and to the State of Mississippi:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
55 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
56 we do hereby commend and congratulate Miss Sarah Gillespie of
57 Hattiesburg, Mississippi, for being the Recipient of the Arts
58 Patron Award category of the 2000 Governor's Awards for Excellence
59 in the Arts, and wish her success in her future endeavors.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to

61 Miss Gillespie in appropriate ceremonies and be made available to
62 the Capitol Press Corps.