

By: Representative Watson

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. MARTHA LAYTON
2 RICHARDSON TATUM ON BEING NAMED THE 2001 ARTS PATRON AWARD WINNER
3 OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS.

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Martha Layton Richardson Tatum will be honored
5 on February 9, 2001, for being named the 2001 Arts Patron Award
6 Winner of the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts; and

7 WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, Mrs. Tatum has devoted her
8 time and energy to the community arts programs in the Hattiesburg
9 area; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tatum was instrumental in the founding of the
11 Hattiesburg Civic Light Opera in the mid-1970's, where she has
12 served as the fifth president of the performing arts organizations
13 and remains on its board of directors; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1996, Mrs. Tatum provided the impetus for the
15 founding of the Hattiesburg Civic Chorus and Concert Association
16 and remains an active participant on its board of directors; and

17 WHEREAS, through her financial support of the College of the
18 Arts at the University of Southern Mississippi, some 11 students
19 now receive scholarship assistance in the fields of theatre and
20 music; and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tatum provided the initial installment of a
22 \$500,000.00 pledge to the Theatre/Dance Endowment managed by the
23 University of Southern Mississippi Foundation; and

24 WHEREAS, in appreciation and recognition for her longtime
25 commitment and many contributions to the arts, the largest theatre
26 in the University of Southern Mississippi's new Theatre and Dance
27 Building was named after Mrs. Tatum; and

28 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tatum has served on the Hattiesburg Arts
29 Council, and currently is serving on one of the committees engaged
30 in planning the gala opening of the restored Saenger Theatre, a
31 cornerstone in revitalization efforts in downtown Hattiesburg; and

32 WHEREAS, Mrs. Tatum has provided individual private grants to
33 area students at the high school and college level for the
34 purchase of musical instruments or to defray performance expenses;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
37 and commend outstanding Mississippians such as Mrs. Tatum, whose
38 many years of dedication to the arts has touched the lives of so
39 many:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
41 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
42 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Mrs. Martha Layton Richardson
43 Tatum for being named the 2001 Arts Patron Award Winner of the
44 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts and express our best
45 wishes of success in all her future endeavors.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
47 furnished to Mrs. Martha Layton Richardson Tatum and to the
48 members of the Capitol Press Corps.