

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.