

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 566

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
2 PROFESSOR RONALD OTTO SCHNELL UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE 2001 ARTS
3 PIONEER AWARD OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS.

4 WHEREAS, Professor Ronald Otto Schnell is the 2001 recipient
5 of the Arts Pioneer Award of the Governor's Awards for Excellence
6 in the Arts; and

7 WHEREAS, as a young teacher on the campus of Tougaloo College
8 in the early 1960's, Ronald Otto Schnell came to Tougaloo at a
9 time when the school was interwoven in the fibers of the Civil
10 Rights Movement; and

11 WHEREAS, born and raised in southwestern Germany, Professor
12 Schnell was heir to a rich cultural tradition and he arrived in
13 Mississippi 38 years ago determined to make art a viable
14 ingredient in the total education of students at Tougaloo; and

15 WHEREAS, amid all the turmoil and sometimes physically
16 threatening circumstances during those remarkable times, Professor
17 Schnell stayed focused on his goal because he realized that
18 exposure to art is a mechanism for building bridges between
19 cultures and for promoting tolerance; and

20 WHEREAS, Professor Schnell's vision and steadfast resolve has
21 resulted in the widely-known Tougaloo Art Collection, which
22 includes more than 2,000 pieces of African, American and European
23 works; and

24 WHEREAS, as one supporter wrote: "Professor Schnell was able
25 to envision, as those engaged in life and death struggles could
26 not, the importance of aesthetics in the process of social
27 change."; and

28 WHEREAS, over the past several decades, more than 100 museums
29 and galleries throughout the United States have shown pieces from
30 this incredible collection; and

31 WHEREAS, retired from the classroom, Professor Schnell's
32 legacy continues through this collection, which is a true
33 Mississippi treasure:

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
35 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
36 we do hereby commend and congratulate Professor Ronald Otto
37 Schnell upon his receipt of the 2001 Arts Pioneer Award of the
38 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts, and wish him
39 continued success in his future artistic endeavors.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
41 presented to Professor Schnell and his family at The Awards
42 Ceremony to be held on Friday, February 9, 2001, and be made
43 available to the Capitol Press Corps.