

By: Representatives Coleman (65th), Clark, Espy, Evans, Fleming, Green, Harrison, Morris, Perkins, Robinson (63rd), Scott (80th), Smith (27th), Wallace, Watson, West

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING JAZZ CONCERT VOCALIST CASSANDRA
2 FOWLKES WILSON ON HER MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AS AN INTERNATIONAL
3 CONCERT ARTIST.

4 WHEREAS, Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson is an internationally
5 acclaimed jazz vocalist, noted as "the most accomplished jazz
6 vocalist of her generation"; and

7 WHEREAS, born in Jackson, Mississippi, to Mary Fowlkes and
8 the late Herman Fowlkes, Ms. Wilson developed an early love for
9 music, studying piano from the age of nine and writing her own
10 songs on the guitar at age 12; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, by the age of 19, had begun performing
12 folk material around Mississippi and Arkansas, gradually immersing
13 herself in jazz under the tutelage of Alvin Fielder and singing
14 with Jackson's Black Arts Music Society; and

15 WHEREAS, after graduating with a degree in mass
16 communications from Jackson State University, Ms. Wilson worked at
17 a New Orleans television station before journeying to New York to
18 pursue a career in music; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson's sultry voice has graced numerous albums
20 and has been featured with such artists as Steve Coleman and Five
21 Elements, the M-Base Collective, New Air and Bob Belden's
22 Manhattan Rhythm Club; and

23 WHEREAS, having toured extensively throughout the United
24 States and abroad, Ms. Wilson has been featured in many national
25 magazines including "New York Magazine," "Rollingstone," "USA
26 Today," "Time," "Chicago Sun-Times," "New York Daily News" and
27 "Houston Chronicle"; and



28 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, having enjoyed the success of selling
29 more than 250,000 copies of her album entitled *Blue Light 'til*
30 *Dawn*, was named "Female Singer of the Year" in 1994; and

31 WHEREAS, gaining much notoriety from her albums *Rendezvous*,
32 *Blood on the Fields* and *New Moon Daughter*, which received a Grammy
33 nomination, and working with such musical greats as Jacky
34 Terrasson and Wynton Marsalis, Ms. Wilson recently sang in the
35 movie "The Score," starring Robert DeNiro, Edward Norton, Angela
36 Bassett and Marlon Brando, and in the movie "Junior"; and

37 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, currently working on a jazz album
38 entitled *In the Belly of the Sun*, has been chosen to be guest
39 speaker for the 68th Founder's Day for the Beta Delta Omega
40 Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., on February 23, 2002;
41 and

42 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives of
43 the State of Mississippi to commend excellence in such an
44 outstanding and exemplary Mississippian as Cassandra Fowlkes
45 Wilson, whose achievements have brought great pride to her family
46 and the citizens of this state:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
48 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
49 commend and congratulate Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson on her many
50 achievements as an accomplished jazz vocalist and international
51 concert artist.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
53 furnished to Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson and to the members of the
54 Capitol Press Corps.

