

By: Senator(s) Johnson (19th), Browning,  
Blackmon, Chaney, Gordon, Michel, Minor,  
Gollott, Huggins, Harvey, Furniss, Simmons,  
Jackson, Kirby, Stogner, Dawkins, Williamson,  
Dearing, Jordan, Dickerson, Hamilton,  
Carlton, Horhn, Frazier, Nunnelee, Posey,  
Carmichael, Thames, Moffatt, Robertson,  
Bryan, Scoper, Lee, King, Chamberlin, White  
(29th), Hyde-Smith, Mettetal, White (5th),  
Burton, Johnson (38th), Smith, Farris, Ross,  
Tollison, Walls, Little, Cuevas, Turner,  
Harden, Canon, Hewes

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 559

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING BILL  
2 MURPHY, OUTSTANDING MUSIC EDUCATOR, ARRANGER AND PERFORMING  
3 MUSICIAN FROM MADISON, MISSISSIPPI, AND DESIGNATING HIS MUSICAL  
4 TRIBUTE TO THE SEPTEMBER 11TH DISASTER VICTIMS, "FREEDOM'S WIND,"  
5 AS AN OFFICIAL GIFT OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO THE UNITED  
6 STATES OF AMERICA.

7 WHEREAS, Madison, Mississippi, music educator, arranger and  
8 outstanding musician Bill Murphy has assembled 93 musicians to  
9 record an uplifting CD entitled "Freedom's Wind," a Christian  
10 patriotic pop collection of pieces which is a musical tribute to  
11 those who lost their lives in the September 11th attack; and

12 WHEREAS, these 93 singers, performers and Mississippi  
13 students intended this project to be a gift from the State of  
14 Mississippi to the United States of America in the spirit of  
15 patriotism; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Murphy moved to Mississippi in 1995 after  
17 retiring from a career in the United States Air Force. Since  
18 moving here Bill has been involved in educating middle school  
19 through college students throughout the state. Bill is a graduate  
20 of USM and teaches as an adjunct professor at USM; and

21 WHEREAS, for three years Bill ran an arts program for a local  
22 children's charity in which he traveled throughout the state  
23 teaching music on a mobile music lab. In addition, he conducted a  
24 summer music program called "Summer Jazz" designed to expose young  
25 music students to professional musicians and artists. The  
26 students performed alongside the professionals and even recorded  
27 with them in a recording studio; and



28           WHEREAS, in February 2001, Bill established the Fine Arts  
29 Institute of Mississippi, Inc., a nonprofit 501c(3) corporation,  
30 and started I.S. Productions, a for-profit video and music  
31 production company. The Fine Arts Institute of Mississippi exists  
32 to carry on Bill's desire to educate Mississippi's aspiring  
33 artists. I.S. Productions exists to produce musical and video  
34 products for resale to help finance the fine arts charity; and

35           WHEREAS, Bill's five-song musical tribute entitled "Freedom's  
36 Wind" includes work by the following professional musicians and  
37 students: Jeff Holmes, Director of Jazz Studies at the University  
38 of Massachusetts-Amherst; saxophonists David Pietero of New York;  
39 John Wojciechowski of Detroit, Michigan, and David Battaglia of  
40 Jackson, Mississippi; nationally-known Christian recording artist  
41 Kellye Huff of Forest, Mississippi, who sings the title song;  
42 Larry Panella, Director of Jazz Studies at the University of  
43 Southern Mississippi; musician/songwriter Johnny Barranco of  
44 Nashville, Tennessee, who wrote "Freedom's Wind"; Randy Drake,  
45 drummer, of La Crescentz, California; Steve Rigazzi, bassist, of  
46 Kansas City, Missouri; Mississippi flutists Albert Lamar, Sybil  
47 Cheesman and Julie Maisel; gospel singers from New Horizon Church  
48 in Jackson, Mississippi; Mississippi vocalists Lisa Palmer and  
49 Melanie Lucroy; the USM String Orchestra; the Mississippi Symphony  
50 Orchestra's trumpet section; students at the Academic and  
51 Performing Arts Complex in Jackson, Mississippi; and second  
52 graders from Madison-Ridgeland Academy; and

53           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the civic  
54 dedication of this music educator and professional musician who  
55 has brought honor to his students, his community and to the State  
56 of Mississippi:

57           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
58 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
59 we do hereby commend and congratulate Bill Murphy, outstanding  
60 music educator, arranger and performing musician from Madison,



61 Mississippi, for his dedication to music education for the young  
62 people of our state, and hereby designate his CD tribute to those  
63 who lost their lives in the September 11th disaster, entitled  
64 "Freedom's Wind," as an official patriotic gift of the talents of  
65 Mississippi to the United States of America, and wish Bill  
66 continued success in his future professional and academic  
67 endeavors.

68         BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
69 presented to Bill Murphy and his family, be forwarded to the  
70 Mississippi Arts Commission and be made available to the Capitol  
71 Press Corps.

