

By: Senator(s) Jordan, Burton, Jackson

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MUSIC AND
2 BUSINESS SUCCESS OF RADIO STATION WGNL IN GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI,
3 AND ITS CEO RUBEN C. HUGHES.

4 WHEREAS, WGNL Radio was introduced in Greenwood, Mississippi
5 in 1988 with Rhythm and Blues programming on the 104.3 frequency
6 at 3,000 watts; and

7 WHEREAS, WGNL is owned and operated by TEAM BROADCASTING with
8 Ruben C. Hughes as its CEO. Mr. Hughes' dream was to make a
9 difference among the African-American community. In his journey,
10 he embarked upon several areas throughout Alabama and Mississippi,
11 but thought that Greenwood, Mississippi had a special touch among
12 its people and decided to create a treasure of music for not only
13 African-Americans in the South, but to others who enjoy musical
14 entertainment; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes is no stranger to the world of radio and
16 entertainment. He has a career in radio spanning over four
17 decades. This Forest, Mississippi native started his radio career
18 while still in high school at the age of 16 at Station WMAG AM in
19 Forest, Mississippi, with a rhythm and blues program; and

20 WHEREAS, after graduating from E.T. Hawkins High School in
21 Forest, Mississippi, he attended Tennessee State University
22 majoring in political science with a minor in speech. Mr. Hughes
23 began his full-time career at WQIC in Meridian, Mississippi doing
24 Rhythm and Blues, Rock and Roll and Gospel programming. In 1964,
25 he joined the staff of WMOZ in Mobile, Alabama and was soon
26 promoted to Program Director, after which he served a brief stint
27 at WMOO in Mobile, Alabama and then WMPP in Chicago, Illinois; and



28 WHEREAS, in 1990, WGNL went to 25,000 watts to better serve
29 its Delta core, giving listeners all over the Delta the exciting
30 programming they so richly deserve. Then in 1994, WGNL reached
31 its power plateau with 50,000 watts serving all of the Delta and
32 North Mississippi and even penetrating Central Mississippi; and

33 WHEREAS, now WGNL is a force to be reckoned with, serving the
34 Delta with the best in R&B Hits and Oldies and all day blues on
35 Saturday and Sunday morning gospel. WGNL also carries the Touch
36 Programming from ABC, which is Urban A/C and has added another
37 member to the TEAM Broadcasting Family, and it is called WGNG, a
38 25,000 watt giant, and it is hot urban and caters to a younger
39 demographic, it is "Hot 106.3"; and

40 WHEREAS, through determination and dedication, Mr. Hughes has
41 made WGNL an icon by becoming one of the first black-owned
42 stations in the nation; and

43 WHEREAS, Mr. Hughes has been married for 42 years to his
44 lovely wife, Mrs. Maxine Hughes, and they have four children; and

45 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the history
46 and determination of this radio station, which represents the
47 Mississippi Delta, and brings pride to its community and to the
48 State of Mississippi:

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
50 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the music
51 and business achievements of Radio Station WGNL in Greenwood,
52 Mississippi, and its Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Ruben C. Hughes,
53 and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
55 Radio Station WGNL and Mr. Hughes, and be made available to the
56 Capitol Press Corps.

