

By: Senator(s) Jordan, Jackson, Harden,
Turner, Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING SENATOR JOHNNIE "TEDDY BEAR" WALLS
2 FOR HIS ROLE IN DESIGNATING THE TEDDY BEAR AS MISSISSIPPI'S
3 OFFICIAL STATE TOY.

4 WHEREAS, Mississippi State Senator Johnnie Walls held two
5 plush Teddy Bears, a brown one and a white one, during debate on
6 the floor of the Mississippi Senate at the Capitol in Jackson,
7 Mississippi, and voted along with the majority of the Senate on
8 House Bill No. 951 to designate the Teddy Bear as Mississippi's
9 Official State Toy; and

10 WHEREAS, as the bill passed Senator Walls stated, "There are
11 some of us crusty old people who love to hug Teddy Bears"; and

12 WHEREAS, for nearly a century, the Teddy Bear has remained
13 one of America's all-time favorite toys; and

14 WHEREAS, the origin of the Teddy Bear dates back to a hunting
15 excursion made by President Theodore Roosevelt to Smedes,
16 Mississippi, on November 14, 1902; and

17 WHEREAS, children from Plantersville School in North
18 Mississippi wrote to legislators seeking support for the stuffed
19 toy; and

20 WHEREAS, on the 100th Anniversary of the Teddy Bear, Senator
21 Walls' picture appeared in *Jet* magazine as he held the two cuddly
22 creatures bringing instant notoriety to the Mississippi Senate for
23 its warmth and compassion:

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
25 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend Senator Johnnie "Teddy
26 Bear" Walls for his role in designating the Teddy Bear as



27 Mississippi's Official State Toy, and hereby designate Senator
28 Walls as the official Teddy Bear for the Mississippi Senate.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
30 Senator Johnnie "Teddy Bear" Walls and be made available to the
31 Capitol Press Corps.

