

By: Senator(s) Little, Smith

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 567

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
2 VICKSBURG NATIVE CHARLES BURNETT UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE 2003
3 GOVERNOR'S EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS AWARD IN THE CATEGORY OF
4 ACHIEVEMENT IN FILMMAKING.

5 WHEREAS, Vicksburg native Charles Burnett is the recipient of
6 the 2003 Governor's Excellence in the Arts Award in the category
7 of Achievement in Filmmaking; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1977, Charles Burnett wrote, directed and
9 produced his first film. Though never commercially released,
10 "Killer of Sheep" was declared a "national treasure" by the
11 Library of Congress and was among the first 50 films placed in the
12 National Film Registry; and

13 WHEREAS, moving to Los Angeles at a young age, Burnett
14 graduated from high school and college in California. He earned a
15 B.A. Degree in Theater Arts from the University of California, Los
16 Angeles, and went on to earn his M.F.A. in Film Production; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1990, he wrote and directed "To Sleep With
18 Anger", which won three 1991 Independent Spirit Awards and earned
19 Burnett the National Society of Film Critics' 1990 Award for Best
20 Screenplay. It also received a Special Jury Recognition Award at
21 the 1990 Sundance Film Festival and a Special Award from the L.A.
22 Film Critics Association; and

23 WHEREAS, his television debut "Nightjohn", a Disney Channel
24 film, was called the "Best American Movie of 1996" in the *New*
25 *Yorker* and received a 1997 Special Citation Award from the
26 National Society of Film Critics; and

27 WHEREAS, in 1997, the Film Society of Lincoln Center and the
28 Human Rights Watch International Film Festival honored Burnett



29 with a retrospective of his work. He was the recipient of a 1988
30 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. He also has received the Louis
31 B. Mayer Grant, the Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment
32 for Arts Grant and a Rockefeller Grant; and

33 WHEREAS, Burnett is currently working on two PBS
34 documentaries, one of which will combine fact with fiction to tell
35 the tale of a boy in 1955 Vicksburg, Mississippi; and

36 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the unique
37 filmmaking talent of this Mississippian who has brought honor to
38 his community and to the State of Mississippi:

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
40 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
41 we do hereby commend and congratulate Vicksburg, Mississippi,
42 native Charles Burnett upon his receipt of the 2003 Governor's
43 Excellence in the Arts Award in the category of Achievement in
44 Filmmaking, and wish him success in his future projects.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
46 Charles Burnett at induction ceremonies on February 28, 2003, and
47 be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

