

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 561

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING STEWPOT COMMUNITY SERVICES
2 FOR ITS DEDICATION TO THOSE MOST IN NEED IN THE CENTRAL
3 MISSISSIPPI AREA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY.

4 WHEREAS, in 1981, representatives from seven churches in
5 Jackson, Mississippi, came together across denominational lines,
6 to discuss a problem they all had in common -- consistent requests
7 for food and assistance from downtown Jackson's poor and homeless;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, these seven churches -- Calvary Baptist, Capitol
10 Street Methodist, Central Presbyterian, Galloway United Methodist,
11 St. Andrew's Episcopal, St. Peters' Catholic and St. James
12 Episcopal -- came together and created what is known today as
13 Stewpot Community Services; and

14 WHEREAS, the original Stewpot was located on West Capitol
15 Street in an old service station. From its beginning, Stewpot was
16 originally housed in Central Presbyterian Church on West Capitol,
17 on the western edge of downtown Jackson; and

18 WHEREAS, from its nativity, the goal of Stewpot has been to
19 promote, develop, stimulate and encourage physical and spiritual
20 development by providing nutritious meals, and the Stewpot kitchen
21 was a success almost instantly; and

22 WHEREAS, the Community Kitchen provides a noon-time meal to
23 anyone, no questions asked, seven days a week and has since served
24 thousands of meals; and

25 WHEREAS, Stewpot ministry has expanded to include the Food
26 Pantry grocery store that provides a four-day emergency supply of
27 food to families; Sims House to shelter homeless women and

28 children; the Billy Brumfield House, named for a man who died of
29 hypothermia while sleeping in an old, abandoned car to provide
30 shelter for up to 50 men per night; and Matt's House as an
31 emergency, overnight shelter for women and children and assist
32 them in their transition toward permanent shelter and employment;
33 and

34 WHEREAS, Stewpot today offers 17 different programs,
35 providing shelter to clothing to counseling to children's
36 programs, and is a model for community service organizations
37 around Mississippi and the nation; and

38 WHEREAS, Stewpot Community Services provided food, clothing
39 and shelter to evacuees from South Mississippi during and after
40 Hurricane Katrina; and

41 WHEREAS, Stewpot Community Services has strengthened the
42 entire Jackson, Mississippi, community by uniting people of
43 differing faiths, races and economic backgrounds in a common
44 purpose to serve their fellow citizens; and

45 WHEREAS, Stewpot Community Services is celebrating its 25th
46 Anniversary and looking forward to its future service to Jackson:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
48 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
49 we do hereby commend Stewpot Community Services, its founders, its
50 numerous supporters, its staff and its Board of Directors for
51 their tireless efforts to serve those most in need of a helping
52 hand, a warm meal and clean bed, and extend to them the best
53 wishes of the Legislature on this organization's 25th Anniversary.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted
55 to the Board of Directors of Stewpot Community Services and be
56 made available to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.