

By: Senator(s) Burton, Blackwell, Dawkins,
Kirby, Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 534

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE NORTH MISSISSIPPI
2 ALLSTARS BAND AS UNOFFICIAL MUSICAL AMBASSADORS FOR THE STATE OF
3 MISSISSIPPI AND WELCOMING THEM ON THE OCCASION OF THE MISSISSIPPI
4 TOURISM ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION ON JANUARY 27, 2016.

5 WHEREAS, the North Mississippi Allstars formed in 1996. The
6 band was the product of a special time for modern Mississippi
7 country blues. Brothers Luther and Cody Dickinson soaked up the
8 music of their father, Memphis legend Jim Dickinson, and absorbed
9 the North Mississippi legacy while playing and shaking it down in
10 the juke joints with their blues ancestors. R.L. Burnside, Junior
11 Kimbrough, Otha Turner and their musical families were at their
12 peak, making classic records and touring the world. Eventually,
13 Luther (guitar, vocals) and Cody (drums, vocals) formed the North
14 Mississippi Allstars and pioneered their own brand of
15 blues-infused rock and roll; and

16 WHEREAS, the North Mississippi Allstars released their debut
17 album, "Shake Hands With Shorty," in the spring of 2000. Their
18 debut proved to be a success and earned them a Grammy nomination
19 for "Best Contemporary Blues Album." After earning two more



20 Grammy nominations in the same category for "51 Phantom" (2001)
21 and "Electric Blue Watermelon" (2005), the North Mississippi
22 Allstars earned the reputation as one of the most intriguing acts
23 to emerge from the loam of Southern blues and roots rock; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2008, after five studio albums and more than a
25 decade touring together, the Dickinson decided to branch out and
26 pursue other projects. In 2009, Luther teamed up with Alvin
27 Youngblood Hart and Jimbo Mathus to form the South Memphis String
28 Band. The trio has toured across the country and released two
29 albums since then. In 2012, Luther formed "The Wandering," a
30 five-piece folk band featuring Shannon McNally, Amy LaVere,
31 Valerie June and Sharde Thomas (Otha Turner's granddaughter), and
32 released their debut album record "Go On Now, You Can't Stay
33 Here." He also recorded and released a solo acoustic album,
34 "Hambone's Meditations," which received a 2013 Grammy nomination
35 for "Best Folk Album"; and

36 WHEREAS, the brothers reunited in 2010 to record "Keys to the
37 Kingdom" after the passing of their father. Jim had always told
38 them, "You need to be playing music together. You are better
39 together than you will ever be apart." Inspired by his words,
40 Luther and Cody went into the family's home recording studio Zebra
41 Ranch to create a record that could help them cope with the loss
42 and rejoice in his honor. Most recently, Luther and Cody have
43 toured extensively with Robert Plant & The Band of Joy, headlined
44 major festivals and toured internationally as a headliner and with



45 Ian Siegal as part of "The Mississippi Mudbloods." They also
46 released two live bootleg records, 2011's "Live in the Hills" and
47 2012's "Live in the Hills Volume II," both recorded at the Annual
48 North Mississippi Hill Country Picnic in Potts Camp, Mississippi;
49 and

50 WHEREAS, the North Mississippi Allstars are at times joined
51 by Lightnin' Malcolm, Alvin Youngblood Hart, the legendary Chris
52 Chew, and a host of other talented musicians. Luther and Cody
53 continually expand the tradition of the Mississippi hill country
54 blues that has inspired them from the beginning, but as "Rolling
55 Stone" aptly notes, "the Allstars may be children of tradition,
56 but they are digging deep in undiscovered country"; and

57 WHEREAS, in 2013, the North Mississippi Allstars released
58 their new career-defining record "World Boogie Is Coming." The
59 album marked a return to the band's blues-infused rock & roll
60 roots and pays homage to hill country legends and songwriters like
61 R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough. Produced at their own Zebra
62 Ranch Studio in Hernando, Mississippi, and featuring special guest
63 appearances by Robert Plant, Duwayne and Garry Burnside, Alvin
64 Youngblood Hart, Sharde Thomas, Chris Chew, Steve Selvidge,
65 Lightnin' Malcolm and others. "World Boogie Is Coming" is the
66 record that perfectly ties it all together, fusing all the
67 elements that have made the Allstars special while pushing the
68 band's sound further into the future than ever before; and



69 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we acknowledge the
70 musical excellence of these talented Mississippi Musicians who
71 have brought artistic excellence to the evolving music community
72 of the State of Mississippi:

73 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
74 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
75 we do hereby recognize the North Mississippi Allstars Band as
76 unofficial Musical Ambassadors for the State of Mississippi and
77 welcoming them on the occasion of the Mississippi Tourism
78 Association Legislative Reception on January 27, 2016.

79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
80 the North Mississippi Allstars and made available to the Capitol
81 Press Corps.

