

By: Senator(s) Tollison, Burton, Gollott, Harkins, Barnett, Bryan, Chassaniol, Clarke, DeBar, Fillingane, Frazier, Hopson, Jackson (32nd), Massey, McDaniel, McMahan, Parker, Polk, Simmons (12th), Tindell, Turner, Watson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 604

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF
2 UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN (NINO) SCALIA AND
3 RECOGNIZING HIS AFFINITY FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Justice Antonin Gregory (Nino) Scalia will go down
5 in history as one of the most transformational Supreme Court
6 Justices our country has ever witnessed; and

7 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, son of an Italian immigrant, was
8 Valedictorian of his 1957 class at Georgetown University and
9 graduated from Harvard Law School in 1960; and

10 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, who was called "Nino" by his
11 friends, launched his legal career at an international firm, but
12 in 1967 decided to follow his passion to teach law at the
13 University of Virginia. Justice Scalia received his first
14 political appointment in 1971 from President Richard Nixon. Just
15 before President Ford's inauguration in 1974, Justice Scalia
16 became head of the Office of Legal Counsel at the United States
17 Department of Justice, returning to teaching law during President
18 Carter's term, this time at the University of Chicago. In 1982,



19 President Ronald Reagan nominated Justice Scalia to the United
20 States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. In 1986,
21 President Reagan appointed Justice Scalia an Associate Justice of
22 the Supreme Court of the United States, an appointment confirmed
23 unanimously by the United States Senate; and

24 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, an avid hunter and rugged
25 individualist until the end, died on February 13, 2016, at the
26 untimely age of 79 while on a hunting trip in Texas; and

27 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia was the longest-serving member of the
28 current Supreme Court at the time of his death, and with nearly 30
29 years on the Court was among the longest-serving Associate Justice
30 in history; and

31 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia was regarded as a staunch advocate of
32 free speech and a leading conservative voice on the Supreme Court.
33 Justice Scalia also stood out for his textualist interpretation
34 that put emphasis on the actual words in the Constitution itself
35 and for vehemently guarding against other modes of interpretation
36 by which judges imposed their own policy preferences onto cases;
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Justice Scalia, a devout Roman Catholic and father
39 of nine children, dedicated his life to protecting every
40 American's right to the constitutional protections granted to us
41 by our Founding Fathers. His son delivered a powerful eulogy and
42 conducted the funeral mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine
43 on February 20, 2016; and



44 WHEREAS, perhaps no single Justice on the United States
45 Supreme Court, save Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar, the only
46 Mississippian ever to serve on the nation's highest court, spent
47 more time in Mississippi than did Antonin Scalia. Lamar served
48 five years on the Supreme Court from 1888 through 1893, but Scalia
49 served 30 years from 1986 to 2016. Scalia's affinity for
50 Mississippi had to have been more than an affinity for hunting and
51 fishing. The Jurist spoke multiple times at Mississippi State
52 University, appeared along with Justice Elena Kagan at Ole Miss,
53 at William Carey University and the University of Southern
54 Mississippi. Justice Scalia was taken with the beauty of
55 Mississippi's woods and wetlands. However, it was the genuine
56 hospitality of Mississippi's people and the penchant of the
57 majority of Mississippians to say what's on their minds that
58 appealed to him and intrigued him:

59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
60 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
61 we do hereby honor the memory of United States Supreme Court
62 Justice Antonin (Nino) Scalia for his dedication to service, his
63 intellectual rigor, his example of friendship and civility across
64 the ideological divide, and his passion for individual liberty,
65 rule of law, and the text of the Constitution of the United
66 States, and recognize his affinity for the State of Mississippi.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted
68 by the Secretary of the Senate to the Clerk of the United States



69 Supreme Court and to the family of Justice Antonin Scalia,
70 forwarded to members of the Mississippi congressional delegation,
71 and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

