

By: Representatives Banks, Paden, Clarke,
Bell (65th), Sykes

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE HISTORY AND
2 COMMENDING THE SUCCESS OF THE BIG APPLE INN ON FARISH STREET.

3 WHEREAS, for 79 years, the Big Apple Inn, located at 509
4 North Farish Street, in the heart of Jackson's downtown historical
5 district, has been an iconic staple of the City of Jackson,
6 Mississippi; and

7 WHEREAS, the Big Apple Inn first opened in 1939 by Juan Mora,
8 also known as "Big John," as the prominent successor business
9 venture of Mora's tamale cart, which he pushed up and down Farish
10 Street in the early 1930s, selling his delectable tamales at
11 twelve cents each, until he eventually saved enough money to
12 purchase a restaurant; and

13 WHEREAS, over the nearly eight decades since its
14 establishment, the restaurant is currently in its fourth
15 generation of family ownership, operated by Big John's
16 great-grandson, Geno Lee, Big Apple Inn remains the highlight of
17 the Farish Street experience, compliments of the famous and



18 world-renowned pig ear sandwich, which is the star item on the
19 restaurant's menu; and

20 WHEREAS, Big John was the kind of man who used everything, a
21 trait that would have a generous payout after a chance encounter
22 with a local butcher by being in the right place at the right
23 time, when the butcher was looking to get rid of what he
24 considered the less desirable part of the animal, and initially
25 gave Big John the key ingredient for his signature sandwich free
26 of charge; and

27 WHEREAS, since its creation, the untraditional pig ear
28 sandwich has created a huge following, even garnering the Big
29 Apple Inn coveted television features on "Bizarre Foods with
30 Andrew Zimmerman" and "Anthony Bourdain Parts Unknown"; and

31 WHEREAS, in addition to serving as a local diner that serves
32 customers from all walks of life, the Big Apple Inn, for the last
33 18 years has served as a popular after school gathering place for
34 neighborhood children to do their homework and be personally
35 tutored by Mr. Lee; and

36 WHEREAS, in the midst of economic challenges faced by many
37 small businesses, the Big Apple Inn has weathered the financial
38 storm to remain a viable independent business establishment whose
39 storied existence and continued longevity are guaranteed to be as
40 iconic as its legendary pig ear sandwich; and

41 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend the
42 historical success of local business establishments, such as the



43 Big Apple Inn and its owners, for continuing the legacy of
44 greatness envisioned by its founder and remaining true to the
45 community which it calls home:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
48 THEREIN, That we do hereby acknowledge the history and commend the
49 success of the Big Apple Inn on Farish Street and extend best
50 wishes for continued success.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
52 furnished to Mr. Geno Lee and to the members of the Capitol Press
53 Corps.

