

By: Representative Tullos

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 BAND DAVID AND THE GIANTS FOR THEIR POSITIVE IMPACT AND WIDE
3 INFLUENCE ON THE MOMENTOUS OCCASION OF THE BAND'S 50TH
4 ANNIVERSARY.

5 WHEREAS, music enthusiasts across the United States have
6 enjoyed the riveting, invigorating and enthralling musicianship of
7 David and the Giants, an outstanding band that has released 17
8 albums and recorded and performed together for 50 years; and

9 WHEREAS, formed by David Huff, Clay Huff, Ray Huff and Jerry
10 Parker, David and the Giants began as a rock band in Laurel,
11 Mississippi, that toured the Southeast during the 1960s, releasing
12 its first single, a cover version of "Rockin Robin," in 1964, and
13 in 1969, Keith Thibodeaux, best known as "Little Ricky" from *I*
14 *Love Lucy*, joined the band, and with his arrival, it marked the
15 beginning of the band's most commercially successful era; and

16 WHEREAS, David and the Giants often described their sound as
17 having its roots in Southern rock, but the band's most successful
18 recordings became popular in England in the 1970s and 1980s, with
19 these songs having a sound called "Northern soul," which were



20 songs that featured a mixture of a Top 40 sound combined with the
21 sound of horns and strings; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1969, David and the Giants achieved regional
23 success in the southeastern United States with singles entitled
24 "Superlove" and "Ten Miles High," and in the early 1970s, the band
25 performed in concert with Styx, Black Oak Arkansas, Cheech and
26 Chong, and Chuck Berry; and one of the members, David Huff, had
27 the outstanding opportunity to be in the studio with The Rolling
28 Stones when they recorded the song, "Brown Sugar" and spent some
29 time in the studio with other artists such as Stevie Wonder and
30 Rod Stewart; and

31 WHEREAS, David and the Giants converted to Christianity in
32 1977, and released their first Christian album, "Song of Songs"
33 without label support, and it contained a mixture of both ballads
34 and pop-rock songs, and the band continued to record albums with
35 that same sound, until the band's fourth album, "Almost Midnight"
36 was released, and this fourth album had a sound much closer to
37 their musical roots, and the band continued with that original
38 sound for their fifth album, "Heaven or Hell"; and

39 WHEREAS, the band signed with CBS Priority Records in the
40 1980s and had many album releases, and in 1989, their song "Here's
41 my Heart" accidentally received airplay on the radio station in
42 Columbus, Ohio, thanks to a mislabeled CD, and the station's
43 program director enjoyed the song tremendously and decided to play
44 it on the station, and afterwards, the station received an



45 incredible public response to the song, and it was then added into
46 the station's regular rotation; and

47 WHEREAS, David and the Giants continued to tour together
48 until 1997, when the members collectively decided that it was time
49 to focus on other endeavors in life, and after the members decided
50 to disband, David Huff released a series of solo albums and
51 continued to perform as a solo act, and he now operates a
52 recording studio near Atlanta, Georgia; and

53 WHEREAS, the Huff brothers occasionally perform together as
54 David and the Giants, and on December 9, 2007, they joined former
55 drummer Keith Thibodeaux for a reunion concert at Emmanuel Praise
56 Church in Monroe, Georgia, and also performed at the 2011
57 Nashville Amp Expo; and

58 WHEREAS, David and the Giants released their album, "Still
59 Rockin" in September 2014, which is a live album that was recorded
60 at New Life Church in Pearl, Mississippi, and in addition to the
61 live recordings, the album features four songs recorded by the
62 band at Huff Recording Studio in Athens, Georgia, and most
63 recently, the band recorded a live concert album in August 2017 to
64 celebrate 50 years of the band's music; and

65 WHEREAS, the band continues to perform in the United States
66 and internationally, and in 2017, they were honored among other
67 Mississippi musicians and songwriters by the Jimmie Rodgers Music
68 Foundation in Meridian, Mississippi, and were awarded The Jimmie
69 Award; and



70 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend
71 outstanding Mississippians such as the members of David and the
72 Giants who have brought honor to their community and to the State
73 of Mississippi:

74 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
75 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
76 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the band David
77 and the Giants for their positive impact and wide influence on the
78 momentous occasion of their 50th anniversary.

79 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
80 furnished to the members of David and the Giants and to the
81 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

