

By: Representatives Baria, Currie, Guice,
Read, Zuber

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 65

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 29, 2018, AS
2 "WALTER ANDERSON DAY" IN HONOR OF THE LATE BRILLIANT AND
3 INFLUENTIAL MISSISSIPPI ARTIST AND ENCOURAGING THE CITIZENS OF
4 MISSISSIPPI TO COMMEMORATE ITS OBSERVANCE ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2018.

5 WHEREAS, Walter Inglis Anderson was born in New Orleans on
6 September 29, 1903, to George Walter and Annette McConnell
7 Anderson, and in 1918, Annette McConnell Anderson purchased the
8 tract of land in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, which is today known
9 as Shearwater; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1922, Walter Anderson enrolled at the New York
11 School of Fine and Applied Art, now the Parsons School of Design,
12 and after a year there he won a scholarship to study at the
13 Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, earned a Packard Award for
14 his drawings, and a Cresson Scholarship to study abroad; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1934, Walter Anderson completed murals for Ocean
16 Springs High School as part of a Works Progress Administration
17 commission, and in 1948, the Brooklyn Museum held an exhibition of
18 his large-format linoleum block prints which pre-date those of



19 Pablo Picasso and Leonard Baskin, who are given credit for first
20 creating large-scale block prints; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1951, Walter Anderson began painting the
22 Community Center Murals in Ocean Springs, a 2,500 square foot
23 mural spanning all four walls, and in 1991, the Walter Anderson
24 Museum of Art opened as one of the few museums in the world
25 dedicated to an individual artist; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2003, Walter Anderson's work was exhibited at the
27 Smithsonian American Art Museum, and in 2005, the murals in the
28 Ocean Springs Community Center were declared a National Treasure;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, in 2017, Walter Anderson was named as a Mississippi
31 Arts and Entertainment Experience Hall of Fame inaugural member,
32 and he is recognized today as one of the foremost southern
33 artists; and

34 WHEREAS, he is credited by many with transforming the medium
35 of watercolor into a fine art, has become the inspiration for
36 countless modernists, and was also before his time in many
37 regards, his abstraction of form and use of color rivals that of
38 well-known artists from the twentieth century, and his block
39 prints, watercolors, and ceramics have become iconic
40 representations of the Gulf Coast and an integral part of the
41 American Contemporary Art Movement; and

42 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
43 and commend the outstanding contributions to society made by



44 outstanding artists and firmly believe that it is fitting and
45 proper to commemorate his monumental and positive contributions to
46 the State of Mississippi by observing September 29, 2018, as
47 "Walter Anderson Day":

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
49 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
50 THEREIN, That we do hereby acknowledge and observe September 29,
51 2018, as "Walter Anderson Day" and encourage the citizens of
52 Mississippi to commemorate its observance on September 29, 2018.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
54 furnished to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

