

By: Representatives Calhoun, Sykes, Wooten,
Bell (65th), Holloway, Banks, Gibbs (72nd),
Clarke, Dortch, Middleton, White

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MURRAH HIGH SCHOOL
2 MURRAH CONCERT SINGERS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING CHORAL ACHIEVEMENTS
3 AND FOR BEING INVITED TO PARTICIPATE AT THE WORLDSTRIDES ONSTAGE
4 FESTIVAL CONCERT TOUR IN ITALY.

5 WHEREAS, the Murrah Concert Singers from Murrah High School
6 in Jackson, Mississippi, have been invited to participate in the
7 WorldStrides OnStage Festival Concert Tour in Italy, where they
8 will participate in four cities across the country, Florence,
9 Rome, Venice and Milan, during their Spring Break in March 2018;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, dating back to recordings from the 1950s and 1960s,
12 the Murrah Choral Department is known as one of the best choral
13 departments throughout the district, state and nation, and is
14 comprised of the Murrah Concert Singers, Murrah Madrigals, Girls
15 Choir, Boys Choir, Sextet and Quartet, with all of these groups
16 having competed at the district, state and national levels, where
17 they have been perpetually rated from advanced to superior levels;
18 and



19 WHEREAS, because of their superior performances, the Murrah
20 Concert Singers have been invited to compete at festivals across
21 the nation where they have received numerous honors and awards,
22 including a district superior rating in 2008, 2009 and 2010; a
23 state superior rating in 2009 and 2010; a superior rating for
24 Concert Singers at Festival Disney in Orlando, Florida, where they
25 competed against almost 300 choral groups; and the highest average
26 for all choirs at a festival in New Orleans; and

27 WHEREAS, the Murrah Concert Singers were invited to attend
28 The Heritage Festival of Gold for Honor Choirs in New York City at
29 St. Bartholomew's Cathedral, where they were privileged to work
30 with internationally acclaimed composers such as Dr. Andre' Thomas
31 and Dr. Jeffrey Redding; the choir also competed in Washington,
32 D.C., and at the Choral Festival at Spellman College in Atlanta,
33 Georgia, rising above over 100 choirs; they further received an
34 invitation to Chicago, Illinois, where they recorded live, with
35 other honor choirs, a commissioned piece conducted by world
36 renowned composer and conductor, Dr. Rene Clausen; and

37 WHEREAS, the choir competed at the River Land Choral Festival
38 in Pearl, Mississippi, where the choir and madrigals received all
39 superior ratings: Best in Class awards in all categories, Best
40 Overall Choir award and Highest Score Overall award, and then the
41 choir competed against 126 choirs in Atlanta, Georgia, at the
42 WorldStrides Heritage Choral Festival and won overall with Girls
43 Choir having the highest score of 98; and



44 WHEREAS, after the choir's win at the festival in Atlanta,
45 they were invited to Los Angeles, California, to compete at the
46 WorldStrides Encore Performance Festival of Gold where they
47 received all superior ratings and the Girls Choir received the
48 highest score of 98, and upon receiving this honor the choir was
49 invited to perform on the international level at the WorldStrides
50 International Concert Tour in four cities across Italy; and

51 WHEREAS, since 2008, the Murrah Concert Singers have been
52 under the leadership of the Director of Choral Activities, Mr.
53 Pierrdro Gallion, a graduate of Jim Hill High School who studied
54 music education with an emphasis on vocal performance at the
55 University of Southern Mississippi and who earned his degree from
56 Jackson State University, and with his inspiration and their
57 amazing talent, the singers continue to soar on wings of musical
58 excellence; and

59 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to commend
60 remarkably gifted students, such as the Murrah Concert Singers,
61 whose tremendous talent and dedication brings honor to their
62 school, community and the State of Mississippi:

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
64 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
65 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the Murrah Concert Singers for
66 their outstanding choral achievements and for being invited to
67 participate at the WorldStrides OnStage Festival Concert Tour in
68 Italy, and wish them the best in all of their future endeavors.



69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
70 furnished to Mr. Pierrdro Gallion and to the members of the
71 Capitol Press Corps.

