

By: Representative Faulkner

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR EXTRAORDINAIRE  
2 AND HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI, NATIVE, MR. JESSE J. HOLLAND AND  
3 CONGRATULATING HIM UPON THE SUCCESS OF HIS FIRST NOVEL, BLACK  
4 PANTHER: WHO IS THE BLACK PANTHER.

5 WHEREAS, Holly Springs, Mississippi, native and University of  
6 Mississippi alum, Mr. Jesse J. Holland, an award-winning author,  
7 has transcended the literary ranks of journalism, fiction and  
8 nonfiction prose to celebrity stardom of mass acclaim after  
9 penning and publishing the first novel featuring comic's most  
10 popular African-American superhero, the Black Panther; and

11 WHEREAS, equipped with his Ole Miss baccalaureate liberal  
12 arts degree with emphasis in journalism and English, coupled with  
13 a masters of fine arts in creative nonfiction from Goucher  
14 College, Mr. Holland, who is a race and ethnicity writer for *The*  
15 *Associated Press*, holds the distinct accomplishment of being  
16 recognized as one of a select few reporters whose career has  
17 afforded them the unique opportunity to cover all three branches  
18 of American government: the White House, the Supreme Court and  
19 Congress; and



20           WHEREAS, in his novel *Black Panther: Who Is The Black*  
21 *Panther*, the accomplished novelist recounts the origin of  
22 T'Challa, the original Black Panther, and places a modern 21st  
23 century spin on the larger-than-life fictional character's modus  
24 operandi as a newly crowned king for the preservation of his  
25 beloved home Wakanda and for the unification and benevolence of  
26 mankind, giving new fans and longtime die-hard aficionados an  
27 insider's preview for the release of the critically acclaimed  
28 movie adaptation of the new *Black Panther*, produced by Marvel  
29 Studios and released by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; and

30           WHEREAS, the author of the now-classic *Black Men Built The*  
31 *Capitol: Discovering African American History In and Around*  
32 *Washington, D.C.* as his first book, and subsequent novel *The*  
33 *Invisibles: The Untold Story of African American Slavery In The*  
34 *White House*, which was named as the 2017 Silver Medal Award winner  
35 in U.S. History in the Independent Publisher Book Awards as well  
36 as one of the top history books of 2016 by *Smithsonian.com*,  
37 Jesse's vivid depiction of the Black Panther earned him the  
38 privilege of being entrusted by Lucasfilm to chronicle the history  
39 of Finn, the newest African-American hero for the catalogue of  
40 *Star Wars* series as the literary component of *Star Wars: The Force*  
41 *Awakens - Finn's Story*; and

42           WHEREAS, in addition to lending his stroke of novelesque  
43 genius to some of comic's most prolific heroes, Mr. Holland shares  
44 his love of journalism and writing through public speaking and



45 teaching, having served as the visiting Distinguished Professor of  
46 Ethics in Journalism at the University of Arkansas in 2016, and is  
47 currently teaching creative nonfiction in the Masters of Fine Arts  
48 program at his second alma mater, Goucher College in Towson,  
49 Maryland; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
51 recognize and commend excellence in literature and journalism when  
52 displayed by the highest caliber of penmanship and creativity of  
53 such exceptionally talented individuals as Mr. Jesse J. Holland,  
54 whose penchant for the written art form has brought much attention  
55 to his success as a true literary craftsman:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
57 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
58 commend award-winning author extraordinaire and Holly Springs,  
59 Mississippi, native, Mr. Jesse J. Holland and congratulate him  
60 upon the success of his first novel, *Black Panther: Who Is The*  
61 *Black Panther*, and extend sincere wishes for continued success in  
62 all his future endeavors.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
64 furnished to Mr. Jesse J. Holland and to the members of the  
65 Capitol Press Corps.

