

By: Representatives Stamps, Faulkner

To: Tourism

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION DECLARING THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI AS
2 THE HOME AND BIRTHPLACE OF THE GREAT AMERICAN MUSIC GENRE KNOWN AS
3 SOUTHERN SOUL.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi has a long history of being
5 the birthplace of many American music genres, including the Blues,
6 Gospel, Jazz, Country and Rock and Roll, and artists such as
7 Robert Johnson of Clarksdale, B.B. King of Indianola, Jimmie
8 Rodgers of Meridian, Elvis Presley of Tupelo, and the world
9 renowned Mississippi Mass Choir; and

10 WHEREAS, however, Mississippi is also the birthplace of the
11 music genre Southern Soul, whose audience has grown throughout the
12 decades, and from the legendary Malaco Records which was founded
13 in 1967, in Jackson, to private recording studios, Mississippi has
14 become fertile ground for Southern Soul artists; and

15 WHEREAS, singing their "Southern Souls Out" are Mississippi
16 artists such as Vick Allen, Bobby Rush, Willie Clayton, Dorothy
17 Moore, The Williams Brothers, Canton Spirituals and many, many
18 more; and



19 WHEREAS, Mississippi has produced the oldest and most
20 recognized Southern Soul music awards show for the past 45 years,
21 the Jackson Music Awards, and its mission is to recognize the
22 accomplishments of all outstanding recording artists and
23 performers in Jackson and across the globe; and

24 WHEREAS, as Southern Soul promoters, Mr. Lee King, of Lee
25 King Entertainment, and Mr. Jesse Thompson, Founding Partner of
26 the Jackson Music Awards, have the combined experience of 95 years
27 endorsing Southern Soul artists, locally, regionally, nationally
28 and internationally; and

29 WHEREAS, Mississippi also has one of the first and only pure
30 Southern Soul radio stations in the country, WRTM 100.5, located
31 in Jackson, which is dedicated to promoting Southern Soul artists;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, Jackson is also home to the second oldest festival
34 in Mississippi, and the oldest Southern Soul festival in the
35 world, the Farish Street Heritage Festival, holding that record
36 for 39 years to date; and

37 WHEREAS, the Farish Street Heritage Festival features several
38 stages of live entertainment, presenting local, regional and
39 national artists and performers, and also provides an extravaganza
40 for the entire family and offers a diverse array of cultural
41 programming in Mississippi; and

42 WHEREAS, Mississippi has produced an endless list of Southern
43 Soul artists who have not only created outstanding Southern Soul



44 music, but have also transformed the genre of Southern Soul into
45 what it has become today:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
48 THEREIN, that we declare the State of Mississippi as the Home and
49 Birthplace of Southern Soul.

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

