

By: Representative Banks

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING FAMOUS BLUESMAN BOBBY
2 RUSH UPON WINNING HIS SECOND GRAMMY AWARD IN THE TRADITIONAL BLUES
3 CATEGORY FOR HIS ALBUM "RAWER THAN RAW" AT THE 62ND GRAMMY AWARDS.

4 WHEREAS, on Sunday, March 14, 2021, Mississippi octogenarian
5 and blues ambassador, Bobby Rush was awarded the second golden
6 gramophone of his career at the 62nd Grammy Awards for his album
7 "Rawer Than Raw" in the category for Best Traditional Blues Album;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, at the ripe age of 87 years old, Rush, a Blues Hall
10 of Famer, twelve-time Blues Music Award winner and B.B. King
11 Entertainer of the Year, is one of the last African-American
12 bluesmen from the class to emerge out of and triumph in the 1950s,
13 60s, and 70s; and

14 WHEREAS, after having recorded for more than 20 labels over
15 the span of his 70-year career, from Checker/Chess and ABC to
16 Philly International and Rounder/Concord, and accumulating more
17 than 400 songs, 80 CD releases, and now 27 albums, Rush bested a
18 pair of fellow Mid-Southerners, including Bentonia,



19 Mississippi-native, Jimmy "Duck" Holmes, and Memphis
20 soul-bluesman, Don Bryant, to win the category; and

21 WHEREAS, after receiving his third Traditional Blues Album
22 nomination and first Grammy win, a Blues Music Award for Album of
23 the Year for his studio recording "Porcupine Meat" in 2017, Bobby
24 spent the next year writing material for his follow-up album,
25 "Sitting on Top of the Blues," which was released in 2019, and
26 featured 11 originals, which earned him another Blues Music Award
27 and Grammy Award nomination, before receiving recognition this
28 year, which brings his total to six career Grammy nominations and
29 two Grammy wins; and

30 WHEREAS, "Rawer Than Raw," released by Deep Rush/Thirsty
31 Records on August 28, 2020, was recorded in Jackson, Mississippi,
32 over the span of several years, and features five originals and
33 six covers to honor some of his Mississippi blues emissaries,
34 including: Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Sonnyboy Williamson II,
35 Skip James and Elmore James; and

36 WHEREAS, "Rawer Than Raw" is a stripped-down, acoustic
37 version of the Grammy Award-winning bluesman, who has been
38 performing since 1951, which highlights the songs performed in a
39 solo setting with only Rush, his guitar, a harmonica and a little
40 percussion, a drastic departure from the extravagant showman
41 perception many are accustomed to experiencing; and

42 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
43 the outstanding talented musicians that call our state home, such



44 as Bobby Rush, whose music and achievements bring great pride to
45 the State of Mississippi:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
48 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Bobby Rush
49 upon his very much deserved second-career Grammy Award for "Rawer
50 Than Raw," and sincerely hope there is much more music to come
51 from our beloved bluesman.

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

