

By: Senator(s) Norwood, Jackson (11th),  
Simmons (12th), Thomas, Jordan, Simmons  
(13th), Butler, Horhn, Chassaniol, McCaughn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 47

1 A RESOLUTION SALUTING AND EXTENDING THE CONGRATULATIONS OF  
2 THE MISSISSIPPI SENATE TO 87-YEAR-OLD BLUES LEGEND BOBBY RUSH FOR  
3 WINNING A 2021 GRAMMY AWARD FOR BEST TRADITIONAL BLUES ALBUM.

4 WHEREAS, Octogenarian Mississippi Bluesman Bobby Rush has won  
5 another Grammy Award. Bobby Rush was one of several Mid-South  
6 artists who earned a 2021 Grammy Award on March 14, 2021. Due to  
7 COVID-19, the 63rd Annual Grammy Ceremonies took place as a large  
8 virtual event; and

9 WHEREAS, the 87-year-old Rush has six total nominations in  
10 his career and got his first win in 2017 for the Best Traditional  
11 Blues Album. Rush won another Grammy in the same category this  
12 year for his LP, "Rawer Than Raw." He won against a pair of  
13 fellow Mid-Southerners, including Bentonia, Mississippi, native Jimmy  
14 "Duck" Holmes and Memphis Soul-Bluesman Don Bryant for the honor;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Bobby Rush has been called the "Dean of the Blues"  
17 and "King of the Chitlin Circuit" because of his longevity and



18 popularity. His fusion of funk, R&B, blues, and in some cases  
19 rap, gives him a signature sound and stage persona; and

20 WHEREAS, "Wow, wow, wow, wow!" said enthused Rush after his  
21 name was announced as the winner. "I want to thank the academy  
22 for choosing me. I'm so blessed and thankful." He told the crowd  
23 that he has recorded 380 records in a career that spans six  
24 decades. This year, Rush was competing against younger and older  
25 Blues Musicians who all respected him. Bobby Rush is definitely  
26 the hardest working octogenarian in show business. Leading up to  
27 the Grammys, he performed at numerous public appearances; and

28 WHEREAS, Bobby Rush has amassed unbelievable accomplishments:  
29 He was designated the first Blues Artist to perform at the Great  
30 Wall of China to a record audience of over 40,000; received  
31 Congressional Commendation by both United States Senator Steve  
32 Cohen and United States Congressman Bennie Thompson; honored by  
33 Tennessee Veterans with his Red, White and Blues Jam Annual  
34 Concert; he either knew, performed or recorded for more than six  
35 consecutive decades with the likes of: Quincy Jones, Calvin  
36 Carter, Elvis Presley, Muddy Waters, Elmore James, Ike and Tina  
37 Turner, Vee Jay Records, and Malaco Records; performed for one of  
38 the nation's longest-running blues festival, the Mississippi Delta  
39 Blues & Heritage Festival, 36 of the 39 years that it existed;  
40 International Ambassador of the Blues for the State of Tennessee;  
41 and International King of the Blues by proclamation of the  
42 Lieutenant Governor of the State of Mississippi; and



43           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we pay tribute to this  
44 respected musician whose body of work has brought great  
45 entertainment to fans nationally and internationally and brought  
46 honor to Bobby's Blues Community and to the State of Mississippi:

47           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
48 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby salute and extend the  
49 congratulations of the Mississippi Senate to 87-year-old  
50 Mississippi Blues Legend Bobby Rush for winning a 2021 Grammy  
51 Award for his Best Traditional Blues Album and for his  
52 contributions to the world of music and his multidecade cultural  
53 Ambassadorship and his positive impact on the creative economy of  
54 the State of Mississippi.

55           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
56 Bobby Rush, forwarded to the Mississippi Development Authority and  
57 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

