

By: Representatives Hale, Carpenter, Goodin, Kinkade, Tubb To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 23

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING LEGENDARY AND RENOWNED MUSICIAN MR.
2 RICKEY MEDLOCKE FOR HIS MUSICAL ARTISTRY AS A MEMBER OF CELEBRATED
3 ROCK BANDS LYNYRD SKYNYRD AND BLACKFOOT.

4 WHEREAS, Plato once philosophized that "Music gives a soul to
5 the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and
6 life to everything," and as such there remains no mystique in
7 characterizing the perfected rhythmic cadence of life of the six
8 instruments, seven if you include his melodious gift of voice,
9 craftsman and talent extraordinaire, Mr. Rickey Medlocke; and

10 WHEREAS, renowned musician Rickey Medlocke is a legendary
11 musical artist who has used his talents as a guitarist and singer
12 during his time as a celebrated member of BlackFoot and the
13 Rock-n-Roll Hall of Famer Lynyrd Skynyrd; and

14 WHEREAS, music truly courses through his blood, as he was
15 trained by one of the best, his grandfather Shorty Medlocke, a
16 famous Delta Blues/Bluegrass and Country musician and banjo player
17 from Jacksonville, Florida, and by the time he completed high
18 school, Rickey had become a musical prodigy, having honed his



19 musical prowess from playing just the miniature banjo at age
20 three, to mastering the banjo, guitar, drums, mandolin, dobro and
21 keyboards; and

22 WHEREAS, having commenced his professional music career in
23 1969 with Blackfoot, he played with Lynyrd Skynyrd from 1971 to
24 1972 as a session musician, lending his drum talents and singing
25 talents to a few songs that would become favorites: such as "One
26 More Time", "Preacher's Daughter", "Lend a Helpin' Hand", "Wino",
27 "White Dove", "Comin' Home", "The Seasons", "Ain't Too Proud to
28 Pray", and "You Run Around"; and

29 WHEREAS, in those early years with Lynyrd Skynyrd, Rickey
30 occasionally played alongside the infamous Bob Burns, the band's
31 original drummer, igniting a passion in Rickey for the front stage
32 and leading him to reform Blackfoot in 1972, with whom he remained
33 for the next 25 years, building a legacy as a wheelhouse of
34 creativity from instrumentality, to songwriting, to composing,
35 each of which cemented his presence in America's musical history
36 as a talented musician in his own right; and

37 WHEREAS, it was during this time that he began touring and
38 producing a catalog of hit songs that included "Train, Train"
39 which was written by his grandfather, and "Highway Song" written
40 by Ricky and his Blackfoot drummer Jakson Spires until he
41 disbanded Blackfoot in the early 1990s; and

42 WHEREAS, the opportunity of a lifetime came "a-knocking" in
43 1996 when, unbeknownst to fans everywhere, Gary Rossington invited



44 Rickey to rejoin Lynyrd Skynyrd as lead guitarist and primary
45 songwriter, and as we now can say, the rest remains history in the
46 making, as Rickey is still playing and writing for Lynyrd Skynyrd
47 today; and

48 WHEREAS, due to his exponential popularity, Rickey, who
49 remains a highly sought after talent, still occasionally
50 collaborates with other musicians like Blackberry Smoke, Shooter
51 Jennings and Bo Bice on some of entertainment's grandest stages,
52 but his heart and commitment are with Lynyrd Skynyrd; and

53 WHEREAS, since creating a residence in DeSoto County,
54 Mississippi, the "Birthplace of America's music," where the
55 crossroads of musical artistry cascade freely like well-placed
56 notes scaling the maps of the treble and bass staff, Mr.
57 Medlocke's presence as a bona fide citizen of Mississippi comes
58 much to the delight of his new hometowners, whose joy as his
59 neighbors is tantamount to that of all Mississippians who pride
60 themselves in sharing this great state with first class
61 celebrities of Rickey's star power, who choose to make the
62 Magnolia State their home; and

63 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
64 celebrate the accomplishments of musical artists who have used
65 their talents to enhance the musical landscape of our lives:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
67 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby



68 commend acclaimed musical artist Mr. Rickey Medlocke for bringing
69 the gift of music into the lives of millions.

70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
71 furnished to Mr. Rickey Medlocke and to the members of the Capitol
72 Press Corps.

