

By: Representative Paden

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 76

1 A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND HONORING THE IMPECCABLE
2 ARTISTRY, CRAFTSMANSHIP, TALENT AND IMPACTFUL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
3 ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY OF MR. SAM COOKE, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO
4 THE 2022 CLASS OF THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCE
5 HALL OF FAME.

6 WHEREAS, given the rich history of successes of the great
7 Magnolia State's native sons and daughters, who have become
8 shining ambassadors of the state's wealth of artistic, musical,
9 literary and silver-screen talents, very little mystery remains to
10 the validity that Mississippi is a place where legends are born
11 and dreams become reality; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2001, the Mississippi Legislature, by virtue of
13 Senate Bill No. 2666, provided for the creation of an educational,
14 entertaining and interactive facility in Meridian, which
15 materialized in the establishment of the Mississippi Arts +
16 Entertainment Experience (The MAX), which tells the stories of all
17 of Mississippi's arts and entertainment icons; and

18 WHEREAS, in homage to the enduring impact of the state's
19 creative legacy, The MAX initiated the Mississippi Hall of Fame in



20 January 2017, with an inaugural class of 18 inductees, and in
21 keeping with the tradition of honoring the influential men and
22 women who trace their roots to Mississippi and represent the best
23 of Mississippi's artistic talents, The MAX has deemed it fitting
24 to induct Mr. Sam Cooke, Clarksdale native and blues legend, into
25 the 2022 Class of the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience
26 Hall of Fame; and

27 WHEREAS, the son of a minister, steeped in gospel music
28 traditions, Mr. Cooke needs no formal introduction, as the melodic
29 crooners name is undeniably synonymous with his most famous tunes,
30 including hits like "You Send Me," "Wonderful World," "Chain
31 Gang," or the Civil Rights-era anthem, "A Change is Gonna Come";
32 and

33 WHEREAS, having grown up in Chicago, Mr. Cooke became an
34 iconic figure in the soul and pop music world, captivating
35 African-American and Caucasian audiences alike with his tenor
36 voice that "oozes a liquid, golden sweetness that caresses the
37 inner ear, and his effortless style, smooth delivery, and endless,
38 unfathomable elegance," as described by New York Festival of Song
39 at Julliard's cast member, Samuel Levine; and

40 WHEREAS, Mr. Cooke, called the "Inventor of Soul Music," was
41 an astute businessman, who founded a record label and a publishing
42 company, groundbreaking feats for an African-American artist at
43 that time, and who died on December 11, 1964, was posthumously
44 inducted into the Rock and Roll Music Hall of Fame in 1986; and



45 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
46 honor the diverse mix of creative legends from across the State of
47 Mississippi of Mr. Sam Cooke's intrinsic talent, and whose
48 contributions to the entertainment industry bestow great pride and
49 esteem upon all Mississippians:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
51 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
52 acknowledge and honor the impeccable artistry, craftsmanship,
53 talent and impactful contributions to the entertainment industry
54 of Mr. Sam Cooke, upon his induction into the 2022 Class of
55 Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience Hall of Fame on
56 December 15, 2022.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
58 furnished to The MAX and to the members of the Capitol Press
59 Corps.

