REGULAR SESSION 2022

N1/2

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

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By: Senator(s) Branning, Simmons (13th), To: Rules Sparks

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 501

1 2 3 4	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI, AUTOMOBILE DEALER BILL GRIFFIS UPON HIS NOMINATION FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS 2022 TIME DEALER OF THE YEAR AWARD RECOGNIZING HIS COMMUNITY SERVICE AND INDUSTRY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
5	WHEREAS, the nomination of Bill Griffis, owner of Griffis
6	Motors Inc., a Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram Dealership in
7	Philadelphia, Mississippi, for the 2022 TIME Dealer of the Year
8	award was announced on November 8, 2021, by TIME; and
9	WHEREAS, Griffis is one of a select group of 47 dealer
10	nominees from across the country who will be honored at the 105th
11	annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Show in Las
12	Vegas on March 11, 2022. The announcement of this year's annual
13	award was made by Viktoria Degtar, Global Chief Revenue Officer,
14	TIME, and Doug Timmerman, President of Dealer Financial Services,
15	Ally Financial; and
16	WHEREAS, the TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the
17	automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted honors.
18	Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers who

also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service.

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- 20 Griffis was chosen to represent the Mississippi Automobile Dealers
- 21 Association in the National Competition one of only 47 auto
- dealers nominated for the 53rd annual award from more than 16,000
- 23 nationwide; and
- 24 WHEREAS, a 1972 graduate of the University of Mississippi in
- 25 Oxford, Griffis earned a B.B.A. in banking and finance. He spent
- 26 12 years working for banks in Mississippi before joining his
- 27 mother, Jean, at her Ford Dealership in Philadelphia, where he
- 28 established a F&I (Finance and Insurance) department and managed
- 29 sales; and
- 30 WHEREAS, today, Griffis Motors is a Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and
- 31 Ram Dealership, and the family business continues to thrive as
- 32 Griffis' two sons, niece, adopted son and sister all work at the
- 33 dealership. He is also proud of the high-performance team of
- 34 employees he has assembled; and
- 35 WHEREAS, Griffis is an active member of the Mississippi
- 36 Automobile Dealers Association and has served in several
- 37 leadership positions, including Chair in 2020, Vice Chair in 2019
- 38 and Secretary in 2018. Under his leadership, this organization
- 39 sponsored a bill that was passed by both legislative houses and
- 40 signed by the Governor to give Mississippi dealers the same
- 41 warranty labor and parts reimbursement as 46 other states. This
- 42 initiative has had a positive effect on every dealer in the state;
- 43 and

44	WHEREAS, Griffis has also been productive in his community by
45	supporting fundraising efforts and helping to continue quality
46	education. His dealership has always been a substantial
47	contributor to four local schools. They provide driver's
48	education cars, help build new scoreboards for the sports teams,
49	and sponsor every child who comes into the dealership. Over the
50	last 30 years, the dealership has also given a \$1,000.00
51	scholarship to every employee's child who graduated from high
52	school and continued his or her education; and
53	WHEREAS, running a family owned business in a small market,
54	Griffis is thankful for the opportunity to carry his mother's
55	legacy forward and to be an important community partner. Griffis
56	has stated: "My most rewarding experience has been the opportunity
57	to see my children enter this business and excel in their
58	respective areas of responsibility and in the community - from
59	civic leaders to just great parents"; and
60	WHEREAS, dealers are nominated by the executives of state and
61	metro dealer associations around the country. A panel of faculty
62	members from the Tauber Institute for Global Operations at the
63	University of Michigan will select one finalist from each of the
64	four NADA regions and one National Dealer of the Year. Three
65	finalists will receive an additional \$5,000.00 for their favorite
66	charities, and the winner will receive an additional \$10,000.00 to
67	give to charity, donated by Ally. In its eleventh year as
68	exclusive sponsor, Ally also will recognize dealer nominees and

- 69 their community efforts by contributing \$1,000.00 to each
- 70 nominee's 501(c)3 charity of choice. Nominees will also be
- 71 recognized on AllyDealerHeroes.com, which highlights the
- 72 philanthropic contributions and achievements of TIME Dealer of the
- 73 Year nominees; and
- 74 WHEREAS, Griffis was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the
- 75 Year Award by the Mississippi Automobile Dealers Association, and
- 76 it is with great pride that we join the automobile industry in
- 77 recognizing this Mississippi businessman who has brought honor to
- 78 his family, his business, his community and to the State of
- 79 Mississippi:
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
- 81 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
- 82 we do hereby commend and congratulate Philadelphia, Mississippi,
- 83 Automobile Dealer Bill Griffis upon his nomination for the
- 84 prestigious 2022 TIME Dealer of the Year Award recognizing his
- 85 industry accomplishments and community service and extend to him
- 86 and his family our best wishes for future success.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
- 88 Bill Griffis, forwarded to the Mississippi Automobile Dealers
- 89 Association and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.