

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI
2 FILM OFFICE ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND
3 RECOGNIZING ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISSISSIPPI'S ECONOMY AND
4 TOURISM.

5 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Film Commission was created on
6 January 17, 1973; and

7 WHEREAS, the significance of the film industry resulted in
8 the promotion of that commission to the Mississippi Film Office as
9 part of the Mississippi Department of Economic Development in 1980
10 allowing the work of that office to provide a public relations
11 impact on global awareness of Mississippi as a tourism and
12 professional destination; and

13 WHEREAS, the film industry, extending back to 1916, has been
14 a significant measure of Mississippi's global reputation, with the
15 Mississippi Film Office expanding that impact beginning with the
16 film *Thieves Like Us* in 1973, and today having supported the
17 production of more than 200 feature films, 29 television movies,
18 65 documentaries, 25 television series, along with countless
19 individual episodes of television programs, short films,



20 commercial productions, and music videos in Mississippi under the
21 leadership of Directors Walterine Odom, John Horhn, Ward Emling
22 and Nina Parikh; and

23 WHEREAS, the remarkable list of Mississippi authors and
24 literary artists such as Larry Brown, William Faulkner, John
25 Grisham, Beth Henley, Willie Morris, Thomas Hal Phillips, Kathryn
26 Stockett, Eudora Welty and Tennessee Williams have allowed film
27 and television productions to highlight Mississippi's
28 contributions to the arts, history, literature, medicine and STEM,
29 along with the legacy of noteworthy public figures such as David
30 Sheffield, Fannie Lou Hamer, Cassandra Wilson, Jessie Mae
31 Hemphill, Medger Evers, Emmett Till, James Meredith, Beah
32 Richards, Mamie Till, Robert Johnson, Dr. James Hardy and Elvis
33 Presley; and

34 WHEREAS, with the support of the Mississippi Film Office,
35 local communities, venues, and the natural beauty of the Magnolia
36 State have served as film locations from historic Natchez to the
37 farmlands of the Delta, from the capital city of Jackson to the
38 beaches and casinos of the Gulf Coast, from the town square of
39 Oxford to Meridian, affectionately the railroad town Queen City;
40 and

41 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Film Office is a key resource for
42 film productions to take advantage of the Mississippi Motion
43 Picture Incentive Program, a state initiative that provides a cash
44 rebate for spending on completed projects that have invested a



45 minimum of \$50,000.00 on Mississippi-based vendors, companies, and
46 cast and crew payroll, inspiring future productions to bring their
47 business to Mississippi; and

48 WHEREAS, film production in Mississippi has accounted for
49 more than \$575 million in direct expenditure since the creation of
50 the Film Office, along with associated payments to local vendors
51 and professionals; and

52 WHEREAS, organizational leadership in the Association of Film
53 Commissioners International from past Director Ward Emling and
54 current Director Nina Parikh has greatly enhanced the
55 international reputation of Mississippi as a professional setting
56 for global film production; and

57 WHEREAS, on location film production has brought to
58 Mississippi such luminaries as Elijah Wood *Adventures of Huck*
59 *Finn*; Claude Jarman, Jr., *Intruder in the Dust*; Carroll Baker,
60 *Baby Doll*; Tom East, *Huckleberry Finn '74*; George Hamilton, *Home*
61 *from the Hill*; Robert Redford, *This Property is Condemned*; Mitch
62 Vogel, *The Reivers*; Diane Ladd, *The Reivers, Wild at Heart*; Robert
63 Duvall, *Tomorrow*; Keith Carradine, *Thieves Like Us*; Shelley
64 Duvall, *Thieves Like Us*; Tom Skerritt, *Thieves Like Us*; Robby
65 Benson, *Ode to Billy Joe*; Glynnis O'Connor, *Ode to Billy Joe, The*
66 *Historian*; Morgan Freeman, *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, Vanquish,*
67 *Paradise Highway, The Minute You Wake Up Dead*; Gerald McRaney, *The*
68 *Brain Machine, Blind Vengeance*; Kris Kristofferson, *Freedom Road*;
69 Tommy Lee Jones, *Barn Burning, The Client, Double Jeopardy*; Ralph



70 Macchio, *Crossroads*; Gene Hackman, *Mississippi Burning*, *The*
71 *Chamber*; Willem Dafoe, *Mississippi Burning*, *The Card Counter*, *Wild*
72 *at Heart*; Frances McDormand, *Mississippi Burning*; Holly Hunter,
73 *Miss Firecracker*, *Strange Weather*, *O Brother Where Art Thou*; Mary
74 Steenburgen, *Miss Firecracker*, *The Help*; Tim Robbins, *Miss*
75 *Firecracker*; Alfre Woodward, *Miss Firecracker*, *Freedom Road*, *The*
76 *Gun in Betty Lou's Handbag*, *Mississippi Grind*; Ally Sheedy, *Heart*
77 *of Dixie*; Virginia Madsen, *Heart of Dixie*, *Ghosts of Mississippi*;
78 Denzel Washington, *Mississippi Masala*; Sarita Choudhury,
79 *Mississippi Masala*; Charles S. Dutton, *Mississippi Masala*, *A Time*
80 *to Kill*, *Cookie's Fortune*; William Forsythe, *Stone Cold*, *The*
81 *Hollow*, *The Gun in Betty Lou's Handbag*; Courtney B. Vance,
82 *Adventures of Huck Finn*, *Cookie's Fortune*; Ron Perlman, *Adventures*
83 *of Huck Finn*, *Joe Baby*; Penelope Ann Miller, *The Gun in Betty*
84 *Lou's Handbag*, *Murder at Hollow Creek*; Julianne Moore, *The Gun in*
85 *Betty Lou's Handbag*, *Cookie's Fortune*; Matthew McConaughey, *A Time*
86 *to Kill*; Sandra Bullock, *A Time to Kill*; Samuel L. Jackson, *A Time*
87 *to Kill*, *Black Snake Moan*; Ashley Judd, *A Time to Kill*, *Double*
88 *Jeopardy*; Tonia Stewart, *A Time to Kill*, *Mississippi Burning*, *Same*
89 *Kind of Different As Me*, *Nightmare in Badham County*, *Minstrel Man*,
90 *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*, etc.; Whoopi Goldberg, *Ghosts of*
91 *Mississippi*; Chris O'Donnell, *The Chamber*, *Cookie's Fortune*; Faye
92 Dunaway, *The Chamber*; Frankie Muniz, *My Dog Skip*; Kevin Bacon, *My*
93 *Dog Skip*; Diane Lane, *My Dog Skip*; Harvey Keitel, *Finding*
94 *Graceland*, *Hard Matter*, *Joe Baby*; Glenn Close, *Cookie's Fortune*;



95 Beth Grant, *The Rising Place, As I Lay Dying, A Time to Kill*;
96 George Clooney, *O Brother Where Art Thou?*; John Turturro, *O*
97 *Brother Where Art Thou?*; Tim Blake Nelson, *O Brother Where Art*
98 *Thou?, As I Lay Dying, The Sound and the Fury*; John Goodman, *O*
99 *Brother Where Art Thou?*; Viola Davis, *The Help, Get On Up*; Octavia
100 Spencer, *The Help, Ma, A Time to Kill, Get On Up*; Jessica
101 Chastain, *The Help*; Allison Janney, *The Help, Breaking News in*
102 *Yuba County, Ma*; Anna Camp, *The Help, From Black*; Aunjanue Ellis,
103 *The Help, Get On Up, John John in the Sky*; James Franco, *As I Lay*
104 *Dying, The Sound and the Fury*; Margo Martindale, *The Hollars,*
105 *Ghosts of Mississippi*; John Schneider, *A Gift Horse, Mysterious*
106 *Circumstance*; Dan Aykroyd, *Get On Up*; Craig Robinson, *Get On Up*;
107 William Sadler, *The Duel, The Hollow, The Historian*; Woody
108 Harrelson, *The Duel*; Liam Hemsworth, *The Duel*; Kim Coates, *Strange*
109 *Weather, Sweating Bullets*; Dolph Lundgren, *Shark Lake, Don't Kill*
110 *It*; Wes Brown, *Nanny Seduction, Every Time a Bell Rings*; Nicolas
111 Cage, *Wild at Heart, Arsenal*; John Cusack, *Arsenal*; Adrian
112 Grenier, *Arsenal*; Jason Patric, *MK Ultra, Murder at Hollow Creek*;
113 Peter Stormare, *Muti, Kill 'Em All, Hard Matter*; Ben and Erin
114 Napier, *Home Town*; Morgan Freeman, Barbara Crampton, *Jakob's Wife,*
115 *A Suitable Flesh*; Jeremy Pope, *The Inspection*; Gabrielle Union,
116 *The Inspection*; Emile Hirsch, *Son, Devil's Workshop*; Cole Hauser,
117 *Muti, The Minute You Wake Up Dead*; Oscar Isaac, *The Card Counter*;
118 Adrienne Warren, *Women of the Movement*; Tyrese Gibson, *The System,*
119 *Hard Matter*; Frank Grillo, *Paradise Highway, A Day to Die, etc.*;



120 Juliette Binoche, *Paradise Highway*; Jeremy/Jason London, Mickey
121 Rourke, *Hunt Club*; Ryan Kwanten, *Glorious*; and

122 WHEREAS, Mississippi productions continue to attract the
123 talent and investment of recognized filmmakers such as Paul
124 Schrader, Joel and Ethan Coen, Elegance Bratton, Mira Nair, Rob
125 Reiner, Wim Wenders, Charles Burnett, Effie Brown, Gina
126 Price-Bythewood, Tina Mabry, Julie Dash, Kasi Lemmons, Joel
127 Shumacher, John Krasinski, Patrik-Ian Polk, James Franco, Tate
128 Taylor, Alan Parker, Michael Mann, Jay Russell, Robert Altman,
129 Walter Hill, Sydney Pollack, Arliss Howard, Vincente Minelli, John
130 Ford, Albert Maysles, Martha Coolidge, Louis Malle, Sydney
131 Pollack, Mark Rydell, George Sidney, and James Mangold; and

132 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we join the film
133 industry in marking this landmark event in the development of a
134 professional State Film agency which has enhanced our economy and
135 promoted a positive image for the State of Mississippi:

136 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
137 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate The
138 Mississippi Film Office on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary,
139 and recognize its contributions to Mississippi's economy and
140 tourism.

141 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
142 the Executive Director and staff of the Mississippi Film Office,
143 forwarded to the Division of Tourism and be made available to the
144 Capitol Press Corps.

