

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

1 A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE RECOGNITION OF THE MISSISSIPPI  
2 SENATE TO VETERAN BLUES MUSICIAN KING EDWARD ANTOINE AS THE  
3 RECIPIENT OF THE 2023 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN  
4 MUSIC.

5 WHEREAS, the Governor's Arts Awards Program has announced its  
6 2023 recipients, which include well-known Jackson Blues Guitarist  
7 King Edward Antoine ("King Edward") as the 2023 Governor's Arts  
8 Award for Excellence in Music; and

9 WHEREAS, established in 1988, Governor's Arts Awards are  
10 given to individuals and organizations to recognize outstanding  
11 work in the artistic disciplines, as well as arts-based community  
12 development and arts patronage in Mississippi. The awards are  
13 presented in partnership with the Governor's Office and signify  
14 the important relationship between government and the arts; and

15 WHEREAS, King Edward Antoine has been a working musician for  
16 67 years. He first developed his guitar skills when he was a  
17 teenager, learning several genres, including zydeco, jazz,  
18 country, rock, R&B and blues to make a living with his music; and



19           WHEREAS, Antoine has been influenced by the blues legends he  
20 has played with, including his cousin Clifton Chenier, Magic Slim,  
21 Sam Myers, Hound Dog Taylor, Junior Wells, Tyrone Davis, Buddy  
22 Guy, Otis Clay and McKinley Mitchell; and

23           WHEREAS, he is the guitarist on Mitchell's classic recording,  
24 *End of the Rainbow*. Antoine was also featured in filmmaker Robert  
25 Mugge's documentary, *The Last of the Mississippi Jukes*, which  
26 focused on the Subway Lounge, a legendary blues club in Jackson;  
27 and

28           WHEREAS, as the former Lead Guitar Player for the Blue Monday  
29 Band, Antoine was a staple at the weekly Blue Monday show at Hal  
30 and Mal's restaurant in Jackson, Mississippi, for over 11 years.  
31 His fame has grown through the international blues fans who have  
32 attended Blue Monday and spread the word about him. Before Blue  
33 Monday, Antoine performed at the legendary Subway Lounge in  
34 Jackson, Mississippi. He has performed at many local and national  
35 festivals, including the Chicago Blues Festival, the Crescent City  
36 Blues Festival in New Orleans, the Mississippi Valley Blues  
37 Festival in Davenport, Iowa, and the B.B. King Homecoming Festival  
38 in Indianola, Mississippi; and

39           WHEREAS, Antoine has been a member of the Mississippi Arts  
40 Commission's Artist Roster for 10 years; and

41           WHEREAS, he is also featured on three Mississippi Blues Trail  
42 markers: The Subway Lounge, The Queen of Hearts, and Ace Records,  
43 where he recorded his first album; and



44           WHEREAS, he received a Peavey Award for his contribution to  
45 Mississippi music. He is a longtime member of the Central  
46 Mississippi Blues Society and a past member of the International  
47 Blues Foundation of Memphis; and

48           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we pay tribute and  
49 express appreciation for the talent of a Mississippi musician who  
50 has made Mississippi a better place and exemplifies the music  
51 traditions of our great state:

52           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
53 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby extend the recognition of the  
54 Mississippi Senate to veteran Blues Musician King Edward Antoine  
55 as the recipient of the 2023 Governor's Arts Award For Excellence  
56 in Music and extend our congratulations to King Edward on this  
57 auspicious occasion.

58           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
59 King Edward as part of the Governor's Arts Awards presentation and  
60 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

