

By: Representative Hood

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 153

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING ROCKFORD (ROCKY)
2 VAUGHAN OF ACKERMAN, MISSISSIPPI, FOR DESIGNING THE NEW
3 MISSISSIPPI STATE FLAG.

4 WHEREAS, we join the citizens of the State of Mississippi in
5 honoring the efforts of a resident who was instrumental in the
6 design of our new Mississippi State Flag; and

7 WHEREAS, Rockford (Rocky) Vaughan was born in Eupora,
8 Mississippi, in June 1977, and at the age of four, after moving to
9 Ackerman, Mississippi, with his parents, Gary and Beverly Vaughan,
10 and younger brother Quint, he became very active in church, school
11 sports, city league sports, as well as choral music, all while
12 gaining interest in the arts; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1996, after graduating high school, Mr. Vaughan
14 attended Holmes Community College, where he earned a scholarship
15 to Mississippi State University, studying graphic design, and
16 while developing his skills, his designs gained him award-winning
17 titles on both state and national levels; and



18 WHEREAS, in 2003, musical aspirations took Mr. Vaughan to
19 Nashville, Tennessee, where he found a platform for performing on
20 Lower Broadway for the next seven years; and

21 WHEREAS, after returning home to Mississippi with his new
22 family, Mr. Vaughan continued to produce designs for various
23 brands such as Dog Pound Printing, Southern Belle, Black Sporting,
24 and he became the lead designer for the lifestyle brand Coastal
25 Waters Supply Company; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2013, inspired by a news story regarding the
27 history of the Mississippi flag, Mr. Vaughan became determined to
28 create a less controversial state flag, and this early inspiration
29 set in motion the process for him to submit a flag design when
30 Governor Tate Reeves created a flag commission in June 2020; and

31 WHEREAS, on November 3, 2020, the voters of Mississippi
32 overwhelmingly voted in favor of Mr. Vaughan's design as the new
33 flag for the State of Mississippi, and under House Bill No. 1
34 (2021 Regular Session), the Legislature ratified the new design as
35 the official flag of the State of Mississippi on January 6, 2021,
36 and the bill was approved by the Governor on January 11, 2021; and

37 WHEREAS, the flag features the official state flower, a
38 magnolia blossom, in the center of a dark blue stripe surrounded
39 by gold and red vertical stripes, and the magnolia sits in the
40 middle of a circle of 20 white stars with a gold star at the top
41 that represents the Native American tribes who lived in
42 Mississippi, and the twenty white stars represent Mississippi's



43 status as the 20th state to enter the Union, and at the bottom of
44 the circle of stars are the words, "In God We Trust"; and

45 WHEREAS, Mr. Vaughan currently resides in Ackerman,
46 Mississippi, with his wife Keland and their son Bentley, and the
47 Vaughans own and operate Deep South Confection and Design and have
48 four sons: Ryder, Brody, Ben and Bentley; and

49 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
50 honor extraordinary Mississippians such as Mr. Rockford (Rocky)
51 Vaughan, whose tremendous contributions and exceptional talent
52 brings honor to the State of Mississippi:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
54 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
55 recognize and commend Rockford (Rocky) Vaughan for designing the
56 new Mississippi State Flag, and extend best wishes for continued
57 success in all his future endeavors.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
59 furnished to Rockford (Rocky) Vaughn, the Choctaw County Economic
60 Development District and to the Capitol Press Corps.

