

By: Representatives Coleman (65th), Clark, Espy, Evans, Fleming, Green, Harrison, Morris, Perkins, Robinson (63rd), Scott (80th), Smith (27th), Wallace, Watson, West

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING JAZZ CONCERT VOCALIST CASSANDRA  
2 FOWLKES WILSON ON HER MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AS AN INTERNATIONAL  
3 CONCERT ARTIST.

4 WHEREAS, Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson is an internationally  
5 acclaimed jazz vocalist, noted as "the most accomplished jazz  
6 vocalist of her generation"; and

7 WHEREAS, born in Jackson, Mississippi, to Mary Fowlkes and  
8 the late Herman Fowlkes, Ms. Wilson developed an early love for  
9 music, studying piano from the age of nine and writing her own  
10 songs on the guitar at age 12; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, by the age of 19, had begun performing  
12 folk material around Mississippi and Arkansas, gradually immersing  
13 herself in jazz under the tutelage of Alvin Fielder and singing  
14 with Jackson's Black Arts Music Society; and

15 WHEREAS, after graduating with a degree in mass  
16 communications from Jackson State University, Ms. Wilson worked at  
17 a New Orleans television station before journeying to New York to  
18 pursue a career in music; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson's sultry voice has graced numerous albums  
20 and has been featured with such artists as Steve Coleman and Five  
21 Elements, the M-Base Collective, New Air and Bob Belden's  
22 Manhattan Rhythm Club; and

23 WHEREAS, having toured extensively throughout the United  
24 States and abroad, Ms. Wilson has been featured in many national  
25 magazines including "New York Magazine," "Rollingstone," "USA  
26 Today," "Time," "Chicago Sun-Times," "New York Daily News" and  
27 "Houston Chronicle"; and



28 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, having enjoyed the success of selling  
29 more than 250,000 copies of her album entitled *Blue Light 'til*  
30 *Dawn*, was named "Female Singer of the Year" in 1994; and

31 WHEREAS, gaining much notoriety from her albums *Rendezvous*,  
32 *Blood on the Fields* and *New Moon Daughter*, which received a Grammy  
33 nomination, and working with such musical greats as Jacky  
34 Terrasson and Wynton Marsalis, Ms. Wilson recently sang in the  
35 movie "The Score," starring Robert DeNiro, Edward Norton, Angela  
36 Bassett and Marlon Brando, and in the movie "Junior"; and

37 WHEREAS, Ms. Wilson, currently working on a jazz album  
38 entitled *In the Belly of the Sun*, has been chosen to be guest  
39 speaker for the 68th Founder's Day for the Beta Delta Omega  
40 Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., on February 23, 2002;  
41 and

42 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives of  
43 the State of Mississippi to commend excellence in such an  
44 outstanding and exemplary Mississippian as Cassandra Fowlkes  
45 Wilson, whose achievements have brought great pride to her family  
46 and the citizens of this state:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
48 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
49 commend and congratulate Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson on her many  
50 achievements as an accomplished jazz vocalist and international  
51 concert artist.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
53 furnished to Cassandra Fowlkes Wilson and to the members of the  
54 Capitol Press Corps.

