

By: Senator(s) Walls

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF LEGENDARY SOUL PERFORMER
2 TYRONE DAVIS FROM GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE
3 SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE.

4 WHEREAS, soul singer Tyrone Davis, who was born in
5 Greenville, Mississippi, and best known for his 1970 hit *Turn Back*
6 *The Hands of Time*, died Wednesday, February 9, 2005, in Chicago,
7 Illinois, just five months after completing his final CD; and

8 WHEREAS, perennially a ladies' choice, Tyrone Davis just
9 seems to naturally appeal to women. That's not to say that men
10 haven't bought his churning Chicago soul records, too; his
11 impressive hit-making career harks back to 1968, and there's no
12 end in sight. His mentor, noted singer Harold Burrage, coached
13 his charge well, and Davis debuted on wax in 1965 as "Tyrone the
14 Wonder Boy" on the local Four Brothers logo. Far more wondrous
15 were Davis' classy efforts for Chicago's Dakar label, commencing
16 with the remorseful R&B chart-topper "*Can I Change My Mind*" in
17 1968, continuing with "*Is It Something You've Got*" in 1969, and
18 the million-selling classic "*Turn Back the Hands of Time*" in 1970.
19 Tyrone forged a fresh, vital new Chicago soul sound; his warm,
20 assured vocals powering the likes of "*I Had It All the Time*" and
21 "*Turning Point*" and "*Mom's Apple Pie*"; and

22 WHEREAS, Tyrone Davis was born May 4, 1938, in Greenville,
23 Mississippi; he was raised in Saginaw, Michigan, before moving to
24 Chicago, Illinois, in 1959, working as a valet/chauffeur for
25 Freddy King until 1962; and

26 WHEREAS, whether you are riding in your car or at home
27 listening to your radio and you hear one of the many hits by
28 Tyrone Davis, you just smile and feel good all over; and

29 WHEREAS, "I've seen a lot of musicians and singers, but
30 nobody was better than Tyrone Davis," said Willie Clayton, the
31 Bluesman from Indianola, Mississippi, who was friends with Davis
32 for more than 30 years. "He had the magic. He was my idol." As
33 far as R&B and soul, Tyrone had a huge impact. He was blues and
34 more; and

35 WHEREAS, Malaco Records in Jackson, Mississippi, said Davis
36 was known throughout the music industry for his business savvy;
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Davis is survived by his wife, Ann; and

39 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of this
40 Mississippian who brought joy to millions of fans throughout the
41 nation and brought honor to his community, the Delta, and the
42 State of Mississippi:

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
44 MISSISSIPPI, That we hereby commend the life of legendary soul
45 performer Tyrone Davis of Greenville, Mississippi, and express to
46 his surviving family and friends the sympathy of the Senate on his
47 passing.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
49 the surviving family of Tyrone Davis and be made available to the
50 Capitol Press Corps.