

By: Senator(s) Brumfield, Butler, Blackmon, Hickman, Jackson, Turner-Ford, Norwood, Frazier, Mumford, Thomas, Simmons (12th), Simmons (13th) To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MUSIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF
2 MISSISSIPPI GOSPEL AND BLUES ARTIST CASTRO "MR. SIPP" COLEMAN FROM
3 MCCOMB, MISSISSIPPI, GRAMMY-WINNING GUITARIST WITH THE WILLIAMS
4 BROTHERS.

5 WHEREAS, Castro "Mr. Sipp" Coleman is a young guitarist,
6 singer and songwriter from McComb, Mississippi, who has become a
7 gospel and blues ambassador for our state; and

8 WHEREAS, Castro Coleman a.k.a. "Mr. Sipp" was born August 25,
9 1976, and is an American blues and gospel singer, musician,
10 songwriter and guitarist. Mr. Sipp is the Vicksburg Blues
11 Society's 2014 International Blues Challenge winner as well as the
12 2014 Gibson Best Guitarist Award Winner. The same year Castro was
13 given the Bobby Rush Entertainer of the Year Award by the Jus'
14 Blues Foundation. In 2015, he won several Jackson Music Awards,
15 including International Male Blues Artist, Blues Artist of the
16 Year, and Entertainer of the Year; and

17 WHEREAS, Castro was the Blues Music Award Best New Artist
18 Debut Winner in 2016 and The Spirit of Little Walter Award Winner
19 the same year. The same year, Castro was the first blues artist



20 to have his handprint inducted into the Wall of Fame in
21 Fredrikshavn, Denmark. For the 25th Annual Living Blues Awards,
22 he won the Best Blues Album of 2017 New Recordings Award
23 (Contemporary Blues) with *Knock a Hole In It*. In 2018, he won the
24 National Blues Artist of the Year Award at the 44th Annual Jackson
25 Music Awards. At the 2025 ceremony of the Blues Music Awards,
26 Coleman was named as the B.B. King Entertainer of the Year; and

27 WHEREAS, Castro Coleman was born in McComb, Mississippi, to
28 Jonell and the late Vera Coleman. He is a husband and the father
29 of four daughters. He has been around music all of his life. His
30 parents and aunt had a quartet group, and he was influenced by
31 B.B. King at the age of six, which is when he started playing the
32 guitar; and

33 WHEREAS, Coleman started out playing gospel with the
34 legendary Williams Brothers, the Canton Spirituals, and the
35 Pilgrim Jubilees. He later started his own group The True
36 Believers, which launched them in the gospel industry with their
37 album *In This Place*. After The True Believers, he started Castro
38 Coleman and Highly Favored, which again proved successful in the
39 gospel industry, with television appearances on *Bobby Jones*
40 *Gospel*. Their album *Time Out* gained national attention; and

41 WHEREAS, in 2012, Coleman decided to venture into the blues
42 genre. He competed in the regional competition in the fall of
43 2012 and won. He then went to compete in Memphis in January 2013
44 and made it to the finals. He went back and won the regional



45 competition in the fall of 2013. He won again and was back in
46 Memphis in 2014 to triumph at the *International Blues Challenge*;
47 and

48 WHEREAS, on February 1, 2019, Castro and his group, The True
49 Believers, released a new album and DVD, *Back to the Roots*.

50 Coleman has won numerous awards, including:

51 • Bobby Rush 2014 Entertainer of the Year Award by the Jus'
52 Blues Foundation;

53 • 2015 International Male Blues Artist, 41st Annual Jackson
54 Music Awards;

55 • 2015 Blues Artist of the Year, 41st Annual Jackson Music
56 Awards;

57 • 2015 Entertainer of the Year, 41st Annual Jackson Music
58 Awards;

59 • Best Blues Album of 2017 New Recordings (Contemporary
60 Blues) for *Knock a Hole In It*, Malaco Records, 25th Annual Living
61 Blues Awards;

62 • 2018 Gospel Group of the Year with The True Believers,
63 Mississippi Gospel Music Awards;

64 • 2018 National Blues Artist of the Year, 44th Annual
65 Jackson Music Awards;

66 • 2020 Award for Mississippi Legend at the Underground
67 Southern Soul Awards;

68 • 2025 B.B. King Entertainer of the Year category winner at
69 the Blues Music Awards; and



70 • Coleman has over 125 credits listed on AllMusic; and
71 WHEREAS, Coleman has given workshops for *Epiphone*. He is
72 endorsed by Ernie Ball, Nord, and Humes and Berg. He is on the
73 roster of the Mississippi Arts Commission and conducts programs in
74 the area schools teaching the young and old about the blues. His
75 latest album, *The Mississippi Blues Child*, on the Malaco Records
76 Label debuted at No. 6 on the Living Blues Chart and made the Top
77 50 for the 2015 year; and

78 WHEREAS, Coleman was cast in *Get on Up* as the first guitar
79 player for James Brown, playing the role of Les Buie. In 2016, he
80 was cast as the young B.B. King on three episodes of the CMT
81 series *Sun Records* and, in 2021, he was cast as a blues singer and
82 musician in the movie *Texas Red*, performing one of his original
83 songs from his new album *Sippnotized* with special arrangements for
84 the movie; and

85 WHEREAS, in 2018, Coleman opened his own blues club known as
86 Sipp's Place in Magnolia, Mississippi. In 2019, along with his
87 blues tours and blues club in Magnolia, Castro Coleman came back
88 to gospel with The True Believers. After a few years, Castro
89 Coleman and The True Believers released *Back to the Roots*,
90 recorded live in April 2018 at Prince of Peace Church in
91 Blytheville, Arkansas. It was released on February 1, 2019; and

92 WHEREAS, his discography includes the following:

93 **Mr. Sipp - The Mississippi Blues Child**

94 • 2013: *It's My Guitar*, Baby Boy Records;



- 95 • 2015: *The Mississippi Blues Child*, Malaco Records;
- 96 • 2017: *Knock a Hole In It*, Malaco Records;
- 97 • 2021: *Sippnotized*, Malaco Records;
- 98 • 2024: *The Soul Side of Sipp*, Malaco Records;

99 **The True Believers**

- 100 • *Steppin' Out on Faith*, Blackberry Records;
- 101 • *Don't Count Me Out*, Blackberry Records;
- 102 • *Live at Home with Family and Friends*, Blackberry Records;
- 103 • 2007: *In This Place*, Malaco Records;
- 104 • 2008: *Break Through*, Malaco Records;
- 105 • 2018: *Back to the Roots*, Winds/Malaco; and
- 106 • 2021: *The Sound We Grew Up On*, Winds/Malaco; and

107 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we commend a Mississippi
108 blues and gospel ambassador who has brought the attention of a
109 music generation to his home town and to the State of Mississippi:

110 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
111 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize the music contributions
112 of Mississippi gospel and blues artist Castro "Mr. Sipp" Coleman
113 from McComb, Mississippi, Grammy-winning guitarist with the
114 Williams Brothers, and extend our congratulations to a Mississippi
115 gospel and blues ambassador and best wishes for future success.

116 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
117 Castro Coleman, forwarded to the Mississippi Arts Commission and
118 be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

