

Senate Resolution 418

By: Senators Brown of the 26th, Butler of the 55th, Fort of the 39th, Seay of the 34th,  
Thomas of the 2nd and others

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Remembering and honoring the life of Mr. Ossie Davis; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mr. Ossie Davis will be remembered as a legendary figure on the stage and the  
3 silver screen; and
- 4 WHEREAS, in 1950, he appeared in his first film, "No Way Out," and over the course of his  
5 lifetime held key roles in television series "Roots: The Next Generation," "Martin Luther  
6 King: The Dream and the Drum," and "The Stand" and appeared in Spike Lee movies such  
7 as "Do the Right Thing" and "Jungle Fever"; and
- 8 WHEREAS, his commanding presence earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues  
9 and the acclaim of audiences everywhere; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in addition to his amazing career as an actor, he also touched audiences as a  
11 writer, director, and producer for both the theater and Hollywood; and
- 12 WHEREAS, among his most notable Broadway appearances was his portrayal of the title  
13 character in "Purlie Victorious," a satirical look at racial stereotypes which he wrote; and
- 14 WHEREAS, he took a deep concern in civil rights issues and was a determined advocate for  
15 African Americans in the entertainment industry; and
- 16 WHEREAS, he was a faithful and devoted husband to his wife, the renowned actress Ruby  
17 Dee, with whom he enjoyed more than five decades of professional triumphs and marital  
18 bliss.
- 19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
20 join to express their sincere regret and sorrow at the passing of Mr. Ossie Davis and extend  
21 their sincere condolences to his family.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Ossie Davis.