

By: Green, Barnett (92nd), Broomfield,  
Brown, Cameron, Capps, Clarke, Coleman  
(29th), Davis, Denny, Eakes, Evans,  
Fredericks, Gadd, Gibbs, Henderson, Holloway,  
Huddleston, Jennings, Livingston, Maples,  
Martinson, McBride, Miles, Mitchell, Nettles,  
Peranich, Pierce, Read, Rushing, Scott  
(17th), Stevens, Taylor, Thomas, Warren,  
Weathersby, West, Whittington

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 47

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE MISSISSIPPI  
2 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER OF THE HIGH  
3 PRICES OF NEW DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES AND TO TAKE SOME ACTION  
4 TO HELP REDUCE THE PRICES OF NEW DRUGS IN THIS COUNTRY.

5 WHEREAS, in recent years many pharmaceutical companies have  
6 developed a number of new drugs that have been very effective in  
7 treating or relieving the symptoms of various illnesses and  
8 conditions; and

9 WHEREAS, because of their effectiveness, these new drugs have  
10 been in high demand among patients and have been widely prescribed  
11 by physicians and other health care professionals; and

12 WHEREAS, these new drugs are still under patent protection,  
13 so each of the drugs is only available from one company and they  
14 are often very expensive; and

15 WHEREAS, the large increase in the use of these costly drugs  
16 has caused great strain on health insurance plans that cover  
17 prescription drugs, including the State and School Employees  
18 Health Insurance Plan; and

19 WHEREAS, the drug companies assert that the high prices for  
20 these drugs is justified because they need to recover the millions  
21 of dollars that they spent for research and development and for  
22 conducting the required federal trials on the drugs; and

23           WHEREAS, despite the companies' claims that high prices for  
24 new drugs are necessary, many consumers, patients and insurers in  
25 the United States have become aware that many of these drugs that  
26 are so expensive here are available in other countries at prices  
27 significantly lower than those in this country; and

28           WHEREAS, if the pharmaceutical companies can afford to sell  
29 these drugs in other countries much cheaper than the prices they  
30 charge in the United States, many people want to know why the  
31 drugs are not sold for the same lower prices in this country; and

32           WHEREAS, it is important for state and federal policymakers  
33 to find out why there is such a discrepancy between the prices of  
34 new drugs sold in the United States and the same drugs sold in  
35 other countries, and to find some ways to help lower the prices of  
36 drugs for American consumers and patients:

37           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
38 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
39 THEREIN, That we memorialize the Mississippi congressional  
40 delegation to look into the matter of the high prices of new drugs  
41 in the United States, to find out why these new drugs are sold  
42 much cheaper in many other countries than they are in the United  
43 States, and to take some action to help reduce the prices of new  
44 drugs in this country.

45           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall  
46 be furnished to each member of the Mississippi congressional  
47 delegation and to the Capitol Press Corps.