

By: Senator(s) Nunnelee

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 547

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND  
2 ITS PRESIDENT, MILLARD FULLER, FOR THIS CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATION'S  
3 SUCCESSFUL AND CONTINUOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE IN MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Millard Fuller is the founder and President of  
5 Habitat for Humanity International, which through his leadership  
6 has become a worldwide Christian housing ministry responsible for  
7 providing more than 375,000 people around the world with safe,  
8 decent, affordable shelter; and

9 WHEREAS, Habitat volunteers have built homes with more than  
10 100,000 families in need in more than 1,485 cities in the United  
11 States, where Habitat has grown to be one of the top house  
12 builders in the United States and the largest among nonprofit  
13 organizations; and

14 WHEREAS, Millard Fuller has close ties to Mississippi, where  
15 he helped establish the first Habitat Regional office in Tupelo,  
16 Mississippi, at the First United Methodist Church in 1985; and

17 WHEREAS, under the dynamic leadership of Millard Fuller,  
18 Habitat for Humanity has grown to 55 organizations in Mississippi,  
19 responsible for building 600 houses in the state, 125 of which are  
20 in the downtown area of Jackson, Mississippi; and

21 WHEREAS, under the Habitat model, each homeowner family is  
22 expected to invest their own labor into the building of their home  
23 and the homes of other families with the assistance of Christian  
24 volunteers, thus reducing the cost of the house, increasing the  
25 pride of ownership and fostering the development of positive  
26 relationships and urban renewal; and

27           WHEREAS, Habitat for Humanity is an important leader in the  
28 battle against poverty housing in Mississippi; it has  
29 revolutionized the lives of hundreds of Mississippi citizens and  
30 has made the dream of homeownership a reality in our state and  
31 throughout the world; and

32           WHEREAS, in 1996, President Bill Clinton awarded Millard  
33 Fuller the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest  
34 civilian honor, stating that Habitat for Humanity is the most  
35 successful continuous community service project in the history of  
36 the United States, and in 1999, Builder magazine named Fuller as  
37 one of the most influential people in homebuilding in the United  
38 States in the 20th Century, and he continues to receive many  
39 honorary doctorate and achievement awards for outstanding  
40 leadership and contributions toward meeting the goal of  
41 eliminating poverty housing worldwide; and

42           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we commend the  
43 Mississippi achievements of Habitat for Humanity and its founder,  
44 who has been an inspiration to all who join community service  
45 organizations as volunteers:

46           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
47 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
48 we do hereby commend Habitat for Humanity International and its  
49 founder, Millard Fuller, for this Christian organization's  
50 successful and continuous community service to the State of  
51 Mississippi, and for its inspiration to all volunteer community  
52 service, and wish it continued success in its future projects in  
53 the cities of our state.

54           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
55 presented to the Mississippi regional leadership of Habitat for  
56 Humanity International and be made available to the Capitol Press  
57 Corps.