

By: Senator(s) Dawkins

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 571

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF JIM GILBERT
2 HENDRICK AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY UPON HIS
3 PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Jim Gilbert Hendrick, 81, a longtime Jackson
5 pediatrician and environmental activist, departed this life on
6 January 21, 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, a native of Lena, Mississippi, Dr. Hendrick grew up
8 on a small family farm with his five brothers and sisters, his
9 mother, Winifred Gilbert, and his father, Marion Hendrick, a
10 history teacher; and

11 WHEREAS, at the age of 15, Dr. Hendrick entered college,
12 graduating from the University of Mississippi in 1939, and from
13 the University of Tennessee Medical School in 1942, where he was
14 elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical scholastic honorary
15 society; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick married Mary Rebecca Ferrell of Oxford,
17 Mississippi, in 1942, and served as a captain in the U.S. Army
18 during the World War II Italian Campaign (1943-45), receiving the
19 Bronze Star for tending wounded soldiers under fire; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1948, after Dr. Hendrick's pediatric residency at
21 St. Joseph's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, the Hendricks moved
22 to Jackson, Mississippi, where Dr. Hendrick entered the private
23 practice of pediatrics with Children's Medical Group until his
24 retirement in 1990; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick was active in professional and civic
26 organizations, including the American Board of Pediatrics,
27 American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association and

28 Mississippi State Medical Association, and served as President of
29 Central Medical Society and as a member of the Environmental
30 Protection Committee of the State Medical Association; and

31 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick accepted numerous assignments from the
32 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), including service on the
33 National Public Information Committee; chair of Mississippi Head
34 Start during the academy's participation; and Mississippi Public
35 Relations chair (1984-86); and

36 WHEREAS, as chair of the AAP fund drive in Mississippi, Dr.
37 Hendrick personally visited every pediatrician in the state to
38 encourage their support of AAP, paving the way for Mississippi to
39 earn the highest rate of participation by pediatricians in the
40 nation; and

41 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick actively participated in the AAP's
42 national environmental committee, continuing his involvement after
43 his retirement to ensure a future of environmental safety for all
44 of us, especially for the children of the world; and

45 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick served as president of the staff of the
46 Baptist Medial Center in 1959, Associate Clinical Professor of
47 Pediatrics at the University of Mississippi and consulting staff
48 member at St. Dominic Hospital; and

49 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick was a community leader working for
50 racial reconciliation, serving as president of the Jackson Urban
51 League (1970), and as a member of Mississippi 2020 Network, Sierra
52 Club and Citizens for Resource Recycling; and

53 WHEREAS, in 1964, he chaired an eight-county drive that
54 immunized children with the new polio vaccine and led the fight to
55 fluoridate Jackson's water supply in 1969; and

56 WHEREAS, in recent years Dr. Hendrick became an authority on
57 dioxins, and their dangers to the environment and to health,
58 especially children's health; and

59 WHEREAS, ordained as a deacon at Calvary Baptist Church,
60 where he served as chair of the Finance Committee, Dr. Hendrick

61 became a charter member of Northminister Baptist Church in 1966,
62 where he also served as a deacon; and

63 WHEREAS, Dr. Hendrick will be sorely missed by his wife,
64 children, grandchildren, brother and sister, and a host of other
65 relatives and friends:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
67 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
68 we do hereby commend the life of Jim Gilbert Hendrick and express
69 our deepest sympathy to his family upon his passing.

70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
71 furnished to the family of Jim Gilbert Hendrick and made available
72 to the Capitol Press Corps.