

By: Senator(s) Smith, Gordon,
 Dearing, Posey, Thames, Chaney,
 Harvey, King, Turner, Dickerson,
 White (29th), Scoper, Johnson
 (19th), Bryan, Carlton, Canon,
 Hyde-Smith, Lee, Jackson,
 Mettetal, Burton, Nunnelee,
 Huggins, Little, Minor, Dawkins,
 Williamson, Ross, Tollison,
 Frazier, Walls, Simmons, Furniss,
 Michel, Moffatt, Stogner,
 Robertson, Carmichael

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 23

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DR. WALLACE
 2 CONERLY, VICE CHANCELLOR AND DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT THE
 3 UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER, UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS
 4 RETIREMENT AFTER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE.

5 WHEREAS, Dr. A. Wallace (Wally) Conerly, M.D., has announced
 6 he will retire from his position as Vice Chancellor for Health
 7 Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of
 8 Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, effective June
 9 30, 2003; and

10 WHEREAS, a member of the Medical Center faculty since 1973,
 11 Dr. Conerly served for 13 years as Assistant Vice Chancellor for
 12 Health Affairs before he assumed his current appointment on August
 13 2, 1994. A professor of medicine, he served as Medical Director
 14 at the Department of Respiratory Therapy at the University
 15 Hospital for 21 years and as Director of the Medical Center
 16 Division of Continuing Health Professional Education from 1979 to
 17 1993. His medical practice is in the field of chest medicine and
 18 critical care; and

19 WHEREAS, as the chief executive officer of the state's only
 20 academic health science center, he leads an institution with an
 21 annual budget of more than \$609,000,000 and a yearly payroll for
 22 its 7200 employees of \$303,870,606. He is the chief architect of
 23 the Medical Center's ongoing expansion program, the largest in the
 24 history of state higher education. Phase I, completed in 1999 and
 25 totaling \$211,000,000 included a new children's hospital, a new
 26 women and infant's hospital, a building for the School of Health
 27 Related Professions, an addition to the School of Nursing, a



28 student union, two parking garages and an imaging center. A
29 second \$124,000,000 construction phase is now underway. It
30 includes a critical care hospital already operational, a new
31 256-bed adult hospital, a classroom addition, a children's
32 hospital addition and an expansion to the Arthur C. Guyton
33 Research Complex; and

34 WHEREAS, a native of Tylertown, Dr. Conerly received his BS
35 degree with honors in 1957 at Millsaps College and his MD degree
36 in 1960 at Tulane University. He did special training at the US
37 Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks Air Force Base,
38 Texas, did a fellowship in medicine in the Section of Cardiology
39 at Ochsner Foundation Hospital in New Orleans and took a residency
40 in internal medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical
41 Center. He was the institution's Mississippi Lung Association
42 Fellow in Pulmonary Disease from 1972-1974; and

43 WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly served in the US Air Force for more than
44 six years as Director of the Aerospace Medicine Division for the
45 3350th USAF Hospital at Moody AFB, GA, and Director of Base
46 Medical Services at Vance AFB, OK. Recipient of the USAF Flight
47 Surgeon of the Year Award in 1962, the USAF Commendation Medal in
48 1963, he was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1966 at
49 the rank of major; and

50 WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly is a Fellow of the American College of
51 Chest Physicians. His past and present professional memberships
52 also include the American Medical Association, Mississippi State
53 Medical Association, Central Medical Society of Mississippi,
54 American Academy of General Practice, Aerospace Medical
55 Association, American and Mississippi Thoracic Societies, American
56 Society of Internal Medicine, Association of American Medical
57 Colleges and the Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Dr. Conerly
58 served a three-year term as the American College of Chest
59 Physicians' Commissioner on the Commission on Accreditation of
60 Allied Health Education Programs. He is a former examiner and



61 member of the Board of Trustees for the National Board for
62 Respiratory Care and has served on the Mississippi State Medical
63 Association Council on Medical Education, the Professional
64 Education Committee of the American Heart Association, Mississippi
65 Affiliate, and the Journal of Respiratory Diseases editorial
66 review board. He is also the state health contact for the
67 Southern Regional Educational Board; and

68 WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly has served on the Board of Directors of
69 the American Red Cross, Mississippi Chapter and the Capital Area
70 United Way. He is past President of the Rotary Club of Jackson
71 and past Chairman of the Board of Governors of the University
72 Club. He is on the boards of the Metro Jackson Chamber of
73 Commerce, Junior Achievement, the Jackson Medical Education
74 District, the Community Bank and is a member of the Community
75 Advisory Council of the Junior League of Jackson. The Mississippi
76 Division of the Multiple Sclerosis Society honored Dr. Conerly and
77 the Medical Center with its 2001 Hope Award. The award is given
78 annually for outstanding community contributions. He received
79 Millsaps College's "Alumnus of the Year" Award in 2002, and he and
80 his wife were recognized as the 2002 People of Vision by Preserve
81 Sight Mississippi; and

82 WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Conerly, the former Frances Bryan (BS
83 Millsaps 1958), are the parents of two sons, Al and Charlie; and

84 WHEREAS, we are grateful for Dr. Conerly's legacy of service
85 in his profession and in Mississippi state government:

86 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
87 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr.
88 Wallace Conerly, Vice Chancellor and Dean of the School of
89 Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, upon the
90 occasion of his retirement after many years of dedicated public
91 service, and with he and his wife, Frances, the best as he returns
92 to private life.



93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT this resolution be presented to
94 Dr. Conerly and his family, be forwarded to the Board of Trustees
95 of Institutions of Higher Learning, and be made available to the
96 Capitol Press Corps.

