

By: Senator(s) Little

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 572

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

6 WHEREAS, Dr. A. Wallace (Wally) Conerly, M.D., has announced
7 he will retire from his position as Vice Chancellor for Health
8 Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of
9 Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, effective June
10 30, 2003; and

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

20 WHEREAS, as the Chief Executive Officer of the state's only
21 Academic Health Science Center, he leads an institution with an
22 annual budget of more than \$609,000,000.00 and a yearly payroll
23 for its 7,200 employees of \$303,870,606.00. He is the Chief
24 Architect of the Medical Center's ongoing expansion program, the
25 largest in the history of state higher education. Phase I,
26 completed in 1999 and totaling \$211,000,000.00 included a new
27 children's hospital, a new women and infant's hospital, a building
28 for the School of Health Related Professions, an addition to the



29 School of Nursing, a student union, two parking garages and an
30 imaging center. A second \$124,000,000.00 construction phase is
31 now underway. It includes a critical care hospital already
32 operational, a new 256-bed adult hospital, a classroom addition, a
33 children's hospital addition and an expansion to the Arthur C.
34 Guyton Research Complex; and

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

45 WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly served in the U.S. Air Force for more
46 than six years as Director of the Aerospace Medicine Division for
47 the 3350th United States Air Force Hospital at Moody Air Force
48 Base, Georgia, and Director of Base Medical Services at Vance Air
49 Force Base, Oklahoma. Recipient of the United States Air Force
50 Flight Surgeon of the Year Award in 1962, the United States Air
51 Force Commendation Medal in 1963, and he was honorably discharged
52 from the United States Air Force in 1966 at the rank of Major; and

53 WHEREAS, Dr. Conerly is a Fellow of the American College of
54 Chest Physicians. His past and present professional memberships
55 also include the American Medical Association, Mississippi State
56 Medical Association, Central Medical Society of Mississippi,
57 American Academy of General Practice, Aerospace Medical
58 Association, American and Mississippi Thoracic Societies, American
59 Society of Internal Medicine, Association of American Medical
60 Colleges and the Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Dr. Conerly
61 served a three-year term as the American College of Chest



62 Physicians' Commissioner on the Commission on Accreditation of
63 Allied Health Education Programs. He is a former examiner and
64 member of the Board of Trustees for the National Board for
65 Respiratory Care and has served on the Mississippi State Medical
66 Association Council on Medical Education, the Professional
67 Education Committee of the American Heart Association, Mississippi
68 Affiliate, and the Journal of Respiratory Diseases Editorial
69 Review Board. He is also the state health contact for the
70 Southern Regional Educational Board; and

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

85 WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Conerly, the former Frances Bryan
86 (Bachelor of Science degree, Millsaps, 1958), are the parents of
87 two sons, Al and Charlie; and

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

90 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
91 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
92 we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr. Wallace Conerly, Vice
93 Chancellor and Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of
94 Mississippi Medical Center, upon the occasion of his retirement



95 after many years of dedicated public service, and wish him and his
96 wife, Frances, the best as he returns to private life.

97 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
98 Dr. Conerly and his family, be forwarded to the Board of Trustees
99 of Institutions of Higher Learning, and be made available to the
100 Capitol Press Corps.

