

By: Representative Mayo

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING VAN ROBINSON BURNHAM, JR.,  
2 M.D., UPON HIS RETIREMENT AND FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED  
3 SERVICE.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Van Robinson Burnham, Jr., retired from the  
5 general family practice of medicine after a career spanning  
6 fifty-eight years, on December 31, 2003; and

7 WHEREAS, born February 20, 1920, in Marks, Mississippi, Dr.  
8 Burnham received his formal education in the Ruleville School  
9 System, graduating from Ruleville High School in 1937; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Burnham attended Sunflower Junior College from  
11 1937-1939, University of Mississippi, where he earned his bachelor  
12 of science degree in 1941, and Northwestern University, earning  
13 his doctorate of medicine degree in 1944; and

14 WHEREAS, he received his medical training on a rotating  
15 internship and residency in pathology at Pennsylvania Hospital in  
16 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1945 and 1946, respectively; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Burnham began his practice of medicine with the  
18 United States Naval Reserve Medical Corps as a Lieutenant Junior  
19 Grade from 1945-1946, before relocating to practice in Vaiden,  
20 Mississippi, from 1946-1948; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1948, Dr. Burnham moved to Clarksdale,  
22 Mississippi, where he practiced until 1953, before relocating to  
23 Birmingham, Alabama, from 1953-1955 to serve as Lieutenant  
24 Commander in the United States Naval Reserve's Medical Corps, and  
25 ultimately returning to Clarksdale in 1955 on a permanent basis;  
26 and

27           WHEREAS, he served as Chief of Staff for the Northwest  
28 Mississippi Regional Medical Center from 1969-1974, where he was  
29 on active staff from 1953 to his present date of retirement; and

30           WHEREAS, his professional affiliations include: the  
31 Mississippi State Medical Association and American Medical  
32 Association, both of which he is a 50-Year Club member, an  
33 American Academy of Family Practice Fellow, membership in the  
34 Clarksdale and Six Counties Medical Association, MENSA and  
35 INTERTEL; and

36           WHEREAS, Dr. Burnham is also active in the civic arena,  
37 having involvement in such organizations as being a board member  
38 of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, president  
39 of the North Delta Museum's Board of Trustees, the Clarksdale  
40 Rotary Club, Friend of the Carnegie Public Library, a member of  
41 the First United Methodist Church and a Paul Harris Fellow; and

42           WHEREAS, Dr. Burnham has enjoyed the loving support of his  
43 wife of fifty-five years, Barbara J. Braswell Burnham; three  
44 children, Babs Burnham Sweatt, Van R. (Bubba) Burnham, III, and R.  
45 Conner Burnham; and five grandchildren, Scott Hollis, Van Hollis,  
46 Denson Hollis, Beth Burnham and Van R. (Bo) Burnham, IV; and

47           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
48 and commend excellence in such outstanding Mississippians as Dr.  
49 Burnham, whose remarkable service to this nation and state are  
50 truly valued:

51           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
52 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
53 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Dr. Van  
54 Robinson Burnham, Jr., upon his retirement and extend our  
55 heartiest wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

56           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
57 furnished to Dr. Burnham and to the members of the Capitol Press  
58 Corps.