

By: Representatives Davis, Watson,
Fillingane, Lott, Brown, Barnett

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE, WORKS AND
2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. LOWERY WOODALL AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST
3 SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Lowery Woodall departed this earthly life to
5 enter into eternal rest with his Heavenly Father, causing great
6 sorrow and loss to his family and friends; and

7 WHEREAS, a visionary and a determined leader, Mr. Woodall, in
8 1962, assumed the duty of Executive Director of Forrest General
9 Hospital, which was founded in 1952, situating the hospital on
10 sound financial footing during his first year; and

11 WHEREAS, a native of Bogue Chitto, Lincoln County,
12 Mississippi, Mr. Woodall graduated from the University of Southern
13 Mississippi with a degree in accounting and economics, and upon
14 the completion of his studies, he accepted a direct commission in
15 the United States Army with an assignment to the Army's Medical
16 Service Corps in Germany; and

17 WHEREAS, as an officer in the Medical Service Corps, Mr.
18 Woodall was vital in the management of more than two dozen medical
19 care facilities in Europe, ranging from general hospitals to
20 ambulance companies; and

21 WHEREAS, after receiving his discharge in 1953, he later
22 graduated from the Basic and Advanced Institutes of the American
23 College of Hospital Administrators and expanded his medical
24 service management career with ten years at the Mississippi
25 Baptist Hospital in Jackson, first as office manager and later as
26 assistant administrator; and

27 WHEREAS, in his efforts to ensure the growth and development
28 of the nursing field, Mr. Woodall, in cooperation with Dr. T.E.
29 Ross, Jr., of Hattiesburg, arranged to transfer student nurses
30 from the Hattiesburg Methodist Hospital's School of Nursing to the
31 Baptist Hospital School of Nursing when Methodist closed its
32 school in 1962; and

33 WHEREAS, recognizing Forrest General's strategic location in
34 South Mississippi and its potential for rapidly developing as a
35 regional hospital, Mr. Woodall began building a foundation of
36 staff, physicians and services in his pursuit of developing a
37 regional referral center with a full scope of services; and

38 WHEREAS, adopting a long-range expansion plan created by
39 nationally known consultant Jacque B. Norman of Greenville, South
40 Carolina, Mr. Woodall, by following and updating the plan through
41 his years of administration, which concluded with his retirement
42 in 1996, transformed Forrest General Hospital from a \$1.3 million
43 facility to a property valued in excess of \$300 million and from a
44 100-bed hospital to a 537-bed regional medical facility; and

45 WHEREAS, under his administration, the hospital saw the
46 additions of the Lowery A. Woodall Outpatient Surgery Facility,
47 the Pine Grove Psychiatric and Chemical Dependence Treatment
48 Facility, the Rehabilitation Resource of South Mississippi, Your
49 Family BirthPlace, the Carl R. Hale Radiation Therapy Center, the
50 Pine Grove Life Focus Center and the Pine Grove Adolescent
51 Pavilion; and

52 WHEREAS, a pioneer blazing trails for Forrest General's
53 revitalization, Mr. Woodall maintained professional affiliations
54 with South Mississippi Health Services, Forrest General Health
55 Services, American College of Hospital Administrators, DuBard
56 School Advisory Board of the University of Southern Mississippi,
57 Forrest County Industrial Park Commission, Southeastern Hospital
58 Conference, Mississippi Hospital Association, Mississippi
59 Commission on Hospital Care, BlueCross BlueShield of Mississippi,

60 Hattiesburg Area Chamber of Commerce, Forrest County Industrial
61 Board, Hattiesburg Rotary Club, Mississippi Heart Fund and the
62 University of Southern Mississippi Foundation; and

63 WHEREAS, his business affiliations have included the boards
64 of the Bank of Mississippi, Hattiesburg Industrial Park
65 Commission, Blue Bonnet Life Insurance Company, Capstone
66 Corporation, Automated Health Systems, Advision, Diversified, The
67 Reciprocal Group and Healthcare Providers; and

68 WHEREAS, Mr. Woodall was active in civic and community
69 involvements, and in addition to being a faithful member of First
70 Baptist Church - Hattiesburg, he also contributed his time and
71 efforts to the Pine Burr Area Council of the Boy Scouts of
72 America, University of Southern Mississippi Big Gold Club and the
73 William Carey College Century Club; and

74 WHEREAS, widely acclaimed and respected by his fellow peers
75 in the medical field, citizens of Hattiesburg and the entire State
76 of Mississippi, Mr. Woodall was honored with the Lifetime
77 Achievement Award by the Hattiesburg Area Chamber of Commerce in
78 1991, "Executive of the Year" by the Mississippi Hospital
79 Association in 1995, in the same year Forrest General
80 simultaneously received an "Excellence Award" in the Mississippi
81 Quality Awards Competition, and he was inducted into the
82 Mississippi Business Hall of Fame in 2000; and

83 WHEREAS, having enjoyed the love, admiration, respect and
84 support of his family, Mr. Woodall's presence will be greatly
85 missed, but the legacy of his memory will forever be cherished in
86 the lives, hearts and memories of his survivors, including: his
87 wife, Patricia Woodall; son, Lowery A. Woodall, Jr.; stepsons,
88 Jerry Ligon and Joe Ligon; daughters, Linda Carol Woodall and
89 Margaret Michelle Woodall; and a host of other relatives and
90 friends; and

91 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
92 and commend excellence in the lives of such instrumental

93 Mississippians as Mr. Woodall, whose stellar performance in his 35
94 years of administration allowed him to become an icon to the
95 business of healthcare, recognized as one of the most outstanding
96 hospital administrators throughout the country:

97 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
98 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
99 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the life, works and
100 accomplishments of Mr. Lowery A. Woodall and express our deepest
101 sympathy to his family and friends upon his passing.

102 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
103 furnished to his wife, Mrs. Patricia Woodall, to cherish on behalf
104 of the family, and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.