

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.