

By: Senator(s) Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 532

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF MISSISSIPPI'S
2 FIRST NEUROLOGIST, DR. RICHARD W. NAEF, AND EXPRESSING THE
3 SYMPATHY OF THE LEGISLATURE ON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Wick Naef, Mississippi's first
5 Neurologist and Jackson civic and charitable leader, passed away
6 on January 20, 2005; and

7 WHEREAS, Richard W. Naef was born in Jackson, Mississippi, on
8 October 8, 1927, and graduated from Central High School in 1945.
9 He served in the Hospital Corps of the U.S. Navy from 1945 to
10 1947, ending his tour of duty at the Naval Hospital at Camp
11 Lejeune, North Carolina. After his honorable discharge, he
12 attended Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, year-round,
13 graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1949. He then entered Jefferson
14 Medical School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1953;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Richard Naef was awarded the Gold Medal in Anatomy
17 in his freshman year, and later the Gold Medal in Otology. He was
18 a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa honors society since his
19 undergraduate years, and was accepted into the Alpha Omega Alpha
20 honorary medical fraternity in medical school; and

21 WHEREAS, his residency in Neurology was with his mentor, the
22 late Dr. Bernard Alpers; he also completed a residency in
23 Psychiatry. Dr. Naef moved back to Jackson in 1959 as the first
24 Neurologist to practice in the State of Mississippi, joining the
25 practice of Neurosurgeons Neill, Neill and Hodges. He received
26 the Millsaps Outstanding Alumnus Award in 1960; and

27 WHEREAS, Richard Naef met his future wife, the late Jane
28 Ellen Newell Naef, in the Central High School Glee Club, and in
29 college they were active in the Millsaps Singers. Both of these
30 choral groups were directed by the late Alvin Jon King, whose
31 friendship and tutelage profoundly shaped their lives. Dr. Naef
32 was an avid record collector and he and his wife greatly enjoyed
33 attending concerts. This love of music led the Naefs to nurture
34 Jackson's musical institutions; they were founding members of the
35 Jackson Choral Society and long-time members of Fondren
36 Presbyterian Church, where they sang in the choir and Dr. Naef
37 served as Elder and Sunday School Teacher. They were strong
38 supporters of Jackson's Symphony, Opera and Ballet; and

39 WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, Dr. Naef and partner, Dr.
40 William E. Bowlus, opened their neurology practice. In time, they
41 were joined by the late Dr. Lawrence Mahalak, Dr. Ancel C. Tipton,
42 Jr. and Dr. David McHenry. Dr. Naef saw patients at all Jackson
43 hospitals, as well as attending to patients once a week at the
44 Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield. From 1959 to 1963, he
45 was part-time Assistant Professor of Medicine (Neurology) at the
46 University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). In 1963, he
47 assumed an appointment as Clinical Assistant Professor of
48 Neurology at UMMC, a position he held until his retirement in
49 1995. Faith guided Dr. Naef's efforts as a physician, as he
50 sought to make his Christian life the center of his medical
51 practice. He was among those doctors in Jackson who decided early
52 on to integrate their waiting rooms, accepting patients from all
53 races and all walks of life; and

54 WHEREAS, Richard Naef was preceded in death by his wife of 51
55 years, Jane Ellen Newell Naef, and by his parents and his youngest
56 brother. He is remembered with love by his daughter, the Rev. Dr.
57 Linda Naef, and her husband, Richard L. Hudson, and grandchildren,
58 Tyler Richard Hudson-Naef and Ellen Caroline Hudson-Naef, all of
59 Jackson; daughter, Lorie Naef, and her husband, Theodore G. Ammon,

60 and granddaughters, Kristin Naef Ammon and Bethany Naef Ammon, all
61 of Jackson; daughter, Lisa Naef Terry, and her husband, R. Michael
62 Terry, and grandsons, Guy Sanford Terry and Ian Lynn Terry, all of
63 New York City. He also leaves two sisters, two brothers and many
64 nieces and nephews, relatives and friends; and

65 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of this
66 Mississippi citizen whose charity and civic leadership will be
67 deeply missed:

68 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
69 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
70 we do hereby commend the life and civic contributions of
71 Mississippi's first Neurologist, Dr. Richard W. Naef, and express
72 to his surviving family the sympathy of the Legislature on his
73 passing.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
75 the surviving family of Dr. Naef and be made available to the
76 Capitol Press Corps.