

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 30

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JASMINE PUGH TAYLOR, M.D., INTERIM  
2 ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL  
3 CENTER, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Jasmine Pugh Taylor, Interim Associate Vice  
5 Chancellor for Multicultural Affairs, Associate Dean for  
6 Multicultural Affairs in the School of Medicine and Assistant  
7 Professor of Psychiatry, the University of Mississippi Medical  
8 Center (UMC), was nominated to the Board of Trustees of State  
9 Institutions of Higher Learning for commendation in recognition of  
10 Black History Month; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor was the Valedictorian of both her high  
12 school and college graduating classes and winner of the  
13 prestigious Merrill Scholarship. She earned her Bachelor of  
14 Science in Biology from Spellman College in Atlanta (1985), and  
15 the Doctor of Medicine from the University of Alabama School of  
16 Medicine in Birmingham (1989), where she participated in the  
17 Medical Scholars Program and completed an internship and residency  
18 in psychiatry; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor was in private psychiatry practice in  
20 Birmingham, Alabama, before she joined the UMC Department of  
21 Psychiatry and Human Behavior four years ago, and in 2004 was  
22 named Associate Dean for Multicultural Affairs in the School of  
23 Medicine to oversee the recruitment and retention of students; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor is also Director of the Mississippi Area  
25 Health Education Center Network, which seeks to improve the health  
26 status of Mississippians in selected regions, and encourages

27 disadvantaged youth in those rural areas to pursue studies that  
28 lead to health careers; and

29 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor plays a pivotal role in UMC's continuing  
30 efforts to arm students with the knowledge and skills they need to  
31 effectively treat patients from other cultures. This  
32 cultural-proficiency training teaches students to have a certain  
33 self-awareness of their attitudes regarding others, helping them  
34 to develop a wider understanding of the social and historical  
35 context of certain populations, patterns of immigration and  
36 folk-healing practices, while leaning away from oversimplifying  
37 and stereotyping different cultures; and

38 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor is an excellent role model for both the  
39 students and faculty at UMC. She is committed to increasing the  
40 number of minority health care providers in Mississippi. The  
41 program that she directs prepares students to be successful in  
42 health science curricula. She is diligent in her work to help  
43 eliminate the health disparities that affect minority and  
44 disadvantaged Mississippians; and

45 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor is on the Board of Jackson 2000, the St.  
46 Andrew Episcopal School, Partners in Education and the Crisis  
47 Center. She is also an active member of Jack and Jill of America,  
48 the Lefleur's Bluff Chapter of Links, Inc., and the Junior League  
49 of Jackson; and

50 WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor's professional affiliations include:  
51 member, American Psychiatric Association; member, National  
52 Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc.; Spellman College  
53 Alumni Association; Anxiety Disorders Association of America;  
54 National Association of Self Esteem; Advisory Board of the  
55 University of Alabama Department of Pastoral Care; member, Pilgrim  
56 Rest Baptist Church; member, Delta Sigma Theta Public Service  
57 Sorority; founding member, Halle Tanner Johnson Medical Society;  
58 and

59           WHEREAS, Dr. Taylor has been recognized for her work by  
60 receiving the following honors and awards: American Medical  
61 Association Physician's Recognition Award, 1996; Delta Sigma Theta  
62 Public Service Award in the field of mental health, 1996;  
63 Strathmore's Who's Who, 1995-1996; First Place Award—Student  
64 Research Day, 1987; Medical Scholars Program, 1985-1987; Who's Who  
65 Among American College Students, 1985; YMCA College Woman of  
66 Achievement, 1985; Atlanta Women's Chamber of Commerce—named Miss  
67 Atlanta; and Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society, 1984:

68           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
69 MISSISSIPPI, That we take pride in recognizing Jasmine Pugh  
70 Taylor, M.D., Interim Associate Vice Chancellor at the University of  
71 Mississippi Medical Center, in observance of Black History Month for  
72 her commitment to working to increase the number of minority  
73 health care providers in Mississippi—making health careers an  
74 accessible goal for all the talented and motivated Mississippians  
75 who dream of being health care providers.

76           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
77 Dr. Taylor in recognition of her commitment to excellence in  
78 education and the medical profession, be forwarded to the  
79 Chancellor of the University of Mississippi and the Vice  
80 Chancellor of the University Medical Center, and be made available  
81 to the Capitol Press Corps.