

By: Senator(s) Little

To: Rules

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 48

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING RUTH K. FREDERICKS, M.D.,  
2 NEURO-ONCOLOGIST AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER,  
3 ST. DOMINIC-JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND RIVER OAKS HOSPITAL AND  
4 FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE TO HER PROFESSION AND TO HER COMMUNITY.

5 WHEREAS, Ruth K. Fredericks, M.D., is the only licensed  
6 Neuro-Oncologist in the State of Mississippi and is held in the  
7 highest regard by her profession and by her patients; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Fredericks is an Associate Professor in  
9 Neurology, Neurosurgery and Neuro-Oncology at the University of  
10 Mississippi Medical Center, serves as Medical Director for the  
11 Vascular Doppler Lab at UMC and at St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial  
12 Hospital, and has a substantial private practice at the University  
13 of Mississippi Medical Center, St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial  
14 Hospital and River Oaks Hospital, often co-attending patients with  
15 respected Dr. Seshadri Raju at the Neuro-Oncology and Multiple  
16 Sclerosis Clinics at the Jackson Medical Mall; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Fredericks is a stereotype-smasher, if ever  
18 there was one. She's also evidence that a physician can be  
19 effective - and self-protective - without placing an emotional  
20 barrier between herself and desperately ill patients. Dr.  
21 Fredericks gives of her very soul when caring for patients. She  
22 laughs and cries with patients and their families, and they  
23 repeatedly tell her that she's like their best friend; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Fredericks makes house calls to her terminally  
25 ill patients. She even visits those who are comatose. "I want to  
26 make sure the patients don't hurt," she says. "But the major  
27 point is to inform family members what's happening so they can  
28 help when they're needed"; and

29           WHEREAS, she has a patient who is a Harley-Davidson  
30 motorcycle fan. After his diagnosis, he became depressed and  
31 refused to participate in physical therapy. Dr. Fredericks  
32 promised him that if he pushed himself to the point where he could  
33 walk, she would rent a Harley and take him for a ride. The  
34 patient, who calls Dr. Fredericks "Motorcycle Mama," is now in  
35 remission; and

36           WHEREAS, Dr. Fredericks is a native of Greenville,  
37 Mississippi; she attended high school in Memphis, Tennessee,  
38 graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree from  
39 Millsaps College (1980), graduated from the University of  
40 Mississippi where she was cited for High Academic Achievement  
41 (1987), interned at North Carolina Baptist Hospital (Wake Forest  
42 University) with a residency in Neurology, she was Chief Resident  
43 in Neurology and received her Board Eligibility in Neurology (June  
44 1991), participated in a Neuro-Oncology Fellowship at Duke  
45 University Medical Center (1992) and in addition to standard  
46 license in Mississippi and North Carolina, she received her  
47 Neuro-Oncology and American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry  
48 certification; and

49           WHEREAS, her numerous professional memberships include the  
50 Society for Neuro-Oncology (2004), her numerous awards and honors  
51 in being listed in "The Best Doctors in America: Southeast  
52 Region," she has numerous clinical research interests, and her  
53 many invited lectures, exhibits and publications are a matter of  
54 record; and

55           WHEREAS, it was the privilege of our own Presiding Officer,  
56 Lieutenant Governor Amy Tuck, to meet Dr. Fredericks as a patient  
57 when she was ill. Governor Tuck found that Dr. Fredericks  
58 practiced medicine as an art, more than a science, by relating to  
59 her patients on a personal basis. "I feel very fortunate to have  
60 Dr. Fredericks as my personal physician," Lt. Governor Amy Tuck  
61 said. "Mississippians are very fortunate that Dr. Fredericks has

62 chosen to lend her outstanding medical knowledge and skill to the  
63 care of our citizens. Health care in Mississippi is vastly  
64 improved through her continued practice of medicine." Dr.  
65 Fredericks has that indefinable quality called "bedside manner";  
66 and

67 WHEREAS, Dr. Fredericks is married to Dr. Ravi S. Fredericks,  
68 and the couple has a son, Andrew S. Fredericks; and

69 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the career  
70 of this Mississippi specialist who gives of her soul when caring  
71 for patients:

72 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
73 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend Ruth K. Fredericks, M.D.,  
74 Neuro-Oncologist at the University of Mississippi Medical Center,  
75 St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial Hospital and River Oaks Hospital in  
76 Jackson, Mississippi, where she is held in the highest regard for  
77 her dedicated service to her profession and to her community, and  
78 extend to her and her family the best wishes of the Senate in her  
79 future endeavors.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
81 Dr. Fredericks and her family, be forwarded to the Director of the  
82 University of Mississippi Medical Center, St. Dominic-Jackson  
83 Memorial Hospital and River Oaks Hospital and be made available to  
84 the Capitol Press Corps.