

By: Senator(s) Little, Burton, Doxey,
Chaney, Frazier, Gordon, Harden, Jackson
(15th), Thames, Walls, White, Williamson

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.