

By: Senator(s) Harden

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 53

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE AFFILIATED COMPUTER SERVICES
2 (ACS) GOVERNMENT HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS DENTAL OUTREACH INITIATIVE.

3 WHEREAS, tooth decay is said to be the single most common
4 chronic childhood disease five times more common than asthma and
5 is one of the two most frequently cited reasons for school
6 absence; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the American Dental Association and the
8 American Academy of Pediatricians, children from low-income
9 families suffer from twice as many cavities as their more affluent
10 peers, and the disease is more likely to remain untreated, leading
11 to potential problems with eating, speaking, and paying attention
12 in school, and plaguing individuals well into adulthood; and

13 WHEREAS, the ACS Initiative was designed to combat these
14 problems by providing free screenings and educational seminars on
15 preventative dental care to underserved children. They will host
16 a series of dental education seminars throughout the State of
17 Mississippi. To reinforce what they have learned at the end of
18 each seminar, students received a bag of treats, including a
19 toothbrush, toothpaste, a tee-shirt, sugarless gum, pencils,
20 record-keeping calendar, and a follow-up report for the parents.
21 The follow-up notice links the alleviation of dental pain to
22 improved academic performance, and includes a list of local dental
23 providers; and

24 WHEREAS, ACS Government Healthcare Solutions, headquartered
25 in Atlanta, Georgia, is joining the National Dental Association
26 and the National Dental Hygienists' Association to launch the ACS
27 Government Healthcare Solutions Mississippi Dental Outreach

28 Initiative in an effort to reach 5,000 low-income children,
29 annually in underserved areas, providing free dental care, and
30 making families aware of the extreme importance of preventive
31 measures:

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
33 MISSISSIPPI, That Affiliated Computer Services (ACS) Government
34 Healthcare Solutions, the National Dental Association and the
35 National Dental Hygienists' Association are recognized for their
36 efforts to improve the dental health of the area's children
37 through the ACS Government Healthcare Solutions Mississippi Dental
38 Outreach Initiative.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
40 representatives of the ACS Government Healthcare Solutions
41 Mississippi Dental Outreach Initiative and be made available to
42 the Capitol Press Corps.