

By: Representatives Peranich, Clarke, Brown,
Burnett, Cockerham, Coleman (29th), Coleman
(65th), Cummings, Dickson, Formby,
Fredericks, Harrison, Lane, Martinson,
Masterson, Rogers (14th), Scott, Stevens,
Thomas, Upshaw, Whittington

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 84

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE COMMITTED DEDICATION
2 OF JOAN E. NICELEY, FOUNDER OF THE "PINK HEART FUND," FOR HER WORK
3 IN PROVIDING WIGS AND BREAST PROSTHESES TO CANCER PATIENTS.

4 WHEREAS, after having been diagnosed with breast cancer on
5 October 21, 2002, JoAn Niceley dedicated her life's work in the
6 fight to find a cure; and

7 WHEREAS, a native of Virginia, JoAn, who is no stranger to
8 overcoming the odds and turning tragedy into triumph, moved to
9 Pass Christian, Mississippi, with her family in 1968, and one year
10 later lost everything to Hurricane Camille, thereafter moving to
11 Long Beach, where she continues to reside; and

12 WHEREAS, because JoAn knows firsthand the determination
13 necessary to get through diagnosis, treatment, and recovery, she
14 has become an invaluable volunteer with the American Cancer
15 Society and has taken on a few projects of her own; and

16 WHEREAS, a hairstylist with 30 years' experience, 12 years of
17 which she has specialized in styling and custom fitting wigs for
18 women, men and children alike, helping them adjust to the side
19 effects of chemotherapy and radiation by providing superior
20 products that have a realistic appearance and feel; and

21 WHEREAS, JoAn uses her skills as a cosmetologist by
22 facilitating "Look Good Feel Better," a program created by the
23 American Cancer Society, during which she teaches patients how to
24 combat the cosmetic side effects of cancer treatments, using her
25 personal and professional experience to assist patients in fitting
26 wigs, scarves and hats; and

27 WHEREAS, in her continuing efforts to aid those financially
28 disadvantaged and unable to buy a wig or expensive breast
29 prosthesis, JoAn founded the Pink Heart Fund to help ensure that
30 cancer patients in need of a wig or breast prosthesis are provided
31 those necessities as part of their recovery process; and

32 WHEREAS, very active in the Relay for Life, Making Strides
33 Against Breast Cancer Walk and the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Walk,
34 Mrs. Niceley has created a cookbook, "Appetite for Living," in
35 honor of cancer survivors and in memory of those who lost their
36 battle with the disease, proceeds of which go to the Pink Heart
37 Fund; and

38 WHEREAS, having lost her father, William Cupp, to cancer in
39 1984 at the age of 54, JoAn's survival is marked by a contagious
40 and enduring energy and a strong will to help those in need; and

41 WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina, JoAn saw an increased need
42 for support and encouragement to be made available to cancer
43 patients, who not only found themselves battling this most
44 atrocious disease, but also battling the survival of life itself
45 after having lost everything in the storm's fury, and in efforts
46 to ease some of the financial strain, donated more than 50 free
47 wigs and an abundance of Wal-Mart Gift Cards; and

48 WHEREAS, during her bout with this life-altering disease and
49 through her continuing effort to do a yeoman's job in helping in
50 the fight for a cure, Mrs. Niceley has shared the admiration and
51 support of husband, Larry Niceley and stepsons, Thomas and
52 Clifford; and

53 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
54 and commend such noteworthy givers of light as Mrs. Niceley, whose
55 own personal struggle with cancer has inspired her to a life of
56 volunteerism and dedicated service in the fight for cancer's cure:

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
58 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
59 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend the committed dedication of

60 JoAn E. Niceley, founder of the "Pink Heart Fund," for the work in
61 the efforts of promoting cancer awareness and for her work in
62 providing wigs and breast prostheses to cancer patients and
63 express warmest wishes for continued health and success in all of
64 her future endeavors.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
66 furnished to Mrs. Niceley and to the members of the Capitol Press
67 Corps.