

By: Representatives Kinkade, Morgan, Hale,
Mettetal, Willis

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 81

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MR.
2 CHRISTOPHER L. SMITH UPON BEING ELECTED AS THE IMPERIAL POTENTATE
3 OF SHRINERS INTERNATIONAL AND SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN.

4 WHEREAS, Christopher L. Smith of Olive Branch, Mississippi,
5 is currently serving his 11th year as a member of the Boards of
6 Directors for Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for
7 Children, and he was elected Imperial Potentate, part of the
8 13-member body that helps govern the Shriners' fraternity, during
9 the Shriners' 2016 Imperial Session held in Tampa, Florida, from
10 July 3 to July 7, 2016; and

11 WHEREAS, the 22 Shriners Hospitals treat burned, cleft lip
12 and palate and crippled children from around the world at no cost
13 to families, and Mr. Smith is the first citizen of Mississippi to
14 lead the worldwide organization of Shriners International and
15 Shriners Hospitals for Children as Imperial Potentate; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith began his fraternal journey at the age of
17 14 when he joined the Order of Demolay in 1969 at Whitehaven



18 Masonic Lodge in Memphis, Tennessee, and he was raised a Master
19 Mason at Whitehaven Masonic Lodge No. 599 at the age of 21; and

20 WHEREAS, additionally, Mr. Smith is a member of the Memphis
21 Scottish Rite and York Rite Bodies of Mississippi, and in 1978, he
22 was made 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and later a Knight
23 Commander of the Court of Honor; and

24 WHEREAS, originally, Mr. Smith became a member of Al Chymia
25 Shriners in Memphis, Tennessee, but he later moved and became a
26 member of Wahabi Shriners Temple in Jackson, Mississippi, where he
27 served as the Temple's Potentate in 2004; and

28 WHEREAS, Mr. Smith is also an active member of the Olive
29 Branch Shrine Club, where he has served as president, and he has
30 also served as president at both the South Central Shrine Motor
31 Corps Association and the Dixie Shrine Motor Corp Association; and

32 WHEREAS, in 2006, the Divan of the Imperial Shrine elected
33 Mr. Smith, and he serves in multiple committee chair positions and
34 gives unselfishly of his time, heart and resources to travel
35 promoting the organization he enjoys representing, but never
36 forgets that his true home is in Mississippi; and

37 WHEREAS, born on August 28, 1955, in Memphis, Tennessee, Mr.
38 Smith has been a resident of Olive Branch since 1977, and he and
39 his wife, Ethel, have been married for 43 years and have two
40 children and four grandchildren, and throughout their marriage,
41 they have been passionate supporters of the organization he has
42 been a part of since 1978; and



43 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to acknowledge
44 and commend the dedicated service and illustrious leadership of
45 those in elite civic organizations throughout Mississippi,
46 especially those such as Mr. Christopher L. Smith, who was
47 recently elected Imperial Potentate of Shriners International and
48 Shriners Hospitals for Children:

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
50 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
51 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Mr.
52 Christopher L. Smith upon being elected as the Imperial Potentate
53 of Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children and
54 express sincere wishes for continued success in all of his future
55 endeavors.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
57 furnished to Mr. Christopher L. Smith and to the members of the
58 Capitol Press Corps.

