

By: Representatives Turner, Aguirre, Boyd,  
Holland, Huddleston (15th), Rogers (14th),  
Sullivan

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING  
2 THE LIFE AND MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. RUDYARD BEAL "RUD"  
3 ROBISON, AND EXPRESSING OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND  
4 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

5 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To  
6 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under  
7 the Heaven," and as such, on September 15, 2017, the immaculate  
8 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal  
9 presence of dearly beloved, Dr. Rudyard Beal "Rud" Robison, to  
10 eternal rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and  
11 friends; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison was born on March 20, 1929, in Tremont,  
13 Mississippi, the first of five children born to Raymond and Sula  
14 Robison, and was raised on Forest Lake Dairy Farm (now Ballard  
15 Park) in Tupelo, Mississippi; and

16 WHEREAS, graduating with honors from Tupelo High School, Dr.  
17 Robison studied pre-medicine at Mississippi State University,  
18 attended medical school at the University of Mississippi and



19 earned his Doctorate of Medicine from the University of Tennessee;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, during his tenure in the United States Army Medical  
22 Corps at Fort Benning, Georgia, Dr. Robison had an opportunity to  
23 study as a direct trainee under Dr. Sterling Bunnell, who wrote  
24 the authoritative text on hand surgery, and after that two-year  
25 rotation, the Colonel and Chief of Orthopedics commended him on  
26 his surgical aptitude and skills, and encouraged him to stay on as  
27 an orthopedic surgeon; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison graciously declined this promising  
29 proposition, and returned to the rural town of Saltillo,  
30 Mississippi, to fulfill his obligation for an earlier grant he  
31 received for college, where he would spend the next 53 years of  
32 his life as a "simple country doc," as he referred to himself; and

33 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison was noted to have said, "It was a  
34 blessing being a country doctor, which is what I always called  
35 myself. I felt like I had a level of relationship with my  
36 patients that I would not have had with orthopedics. I think I  
37 was not only their physician but their friend. Something I would  
38 not have been able to do if I had specialized."; and

39 WHEREAS, the Saltillo Clinic opened on January 1, 1958, with  
40 an office fee of \$4.00 and no employees, but 20 patients were  
41 cared for that day, and from that day forward, Dr. Robison opened  
42 his doors without discrimination and provided medical services  
43 regardless of one's ability to pay, as he fondly recalled being



44 reimbursed for medical procedures numerous times with a half a  
45 dozen eggs or a bushel of beans; and

46 WHEREAS, many of Dr. Robison's patients and colleagues  
47 considered him one of the best diagnosticians they had ever met,  
48 but to him, he was simply being their friend, listening to what  
49 they said and applying that insight to his medical knowledge,  
50 embodying his favorite quote by President Eisenhower's  
51 cardiologist, "If you listen to the patient, long enough and hard  
52 enough - they will tell you what is wrong with them."; and

53 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison's patients were always met with respect  
54 and graciousness, regardless of the person or diagnosis, whether a  
55 kitchen table birthing, a life-saving procedure or a bruised knee,  
56 until he retired at the age of 82, and when asked why he did not  
57 retire earlier, Dr. Robison said that he simply did not want to  
58 let his patients down; and

59 WHEREAS, a former Chief of Staff for the North Mississippi  
60 Medical Center, Dr. Robison's life outside of his practice  
61 revolved around his family, friends, business successes, farming  
62 and golf, with his family being of the utmost importance to Dr.  
63 Robison, whose devotion, love and support was unwavering; and

64 WHEREAS, one of Dr. Robison's prized business adventures was  
65 the residential development of the "Old Payne Place" on land that  
66 he acquired from his father and had farmed for many years, but he  
67 would always laughingly say that one of his biggest



68 accomplishments was putting six children through college on an  
69 office visit fee of \$10.00; and

70 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison discovered golf in his late thirties,  
71 serving as President of the Natchez Trace Golf Club for several  
72 years, and he reveled that his first best score resulted in  
73 winning the club championship after three sudden death playoffs;  
74 and he and his wife Nancy enjoyed traveling and golfing around the  
75 world, and on many occasions during those travels, he was mistaken  
76 for golf legend Jack Nicholas, who he himself did a double-take  
77 when seeing his doppelganger across a putting green; and

78 WHEREAS, Dr. Robison, a man of honor, integrity and  
79 unconditional love, gave his life to helping others, made an  
80 indelible impression on the lives of those he touched and will  
81 forever be cherished; and the legacy of Dr. Robison's memory will  
82 continue to refresh the hearts and fond memories of his beloved  
83 survivors, including his wife of 42 years, Nancy Robison of  
84 Tupelo; his children, Rud Robison, Jr. (Debra) of Tupelo, Raymond  
85 Andrew "Andy" Robison of Tupelo, Stacy R. Price (Dr. Mark) of  
86 Napa, California, Kim R. Mitchell (Tom) of Memphis, Tennessee, and  
87 Wendy R. Morrow (Greg) of Saltillo, Mississippi; his sister, Anne  
88 Robison of San Romon, California; and numerous grandchildren; and

89 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
90 the outstanding individual contributions of fine Mississippians,  
91 especially those such as Dr. Rudyard Beal Robison, whose steadfast



92 commitment to his family, his patients and the practice of  
93 medicine has brought great honor to the State of Mississippi:

94 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
95 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
96 THEREIN, That we do hereby mourn the loss and commemorate the life  
97 and many accomplishments of Dr. Rudyard Beal "Rud" Robison, and  
98 express deepest sympathy to his family and friends upon his  
99 passing.

100 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
101 furnished to the family of Dr. Rudyard Beal "Rud" Robison and to  
102 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

