

By: Representative Holloway

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 52

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. CHANDRA M. MINOR, DMD, FOR BEING
2 THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE ORTHODONTIST IN MISSISSIPPI.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Chandra M. Minor, DMD, is the first
4 African-American female orthodontist in Mississippi, a
5 history-making achievement for both Dr. Minor and for the Magnolia
6 State; and

7 WHEREAS, born in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, on January 5, 1986,
8 to Ms. Cynthia M. Minor and Mr. Willie F. Butler, Dr. Minor
9 exhibited a gift for learning at a young age, and she started
10 preschool at two years old and rode a school bus that was driven
11 by her grandmother, Ms. Patsy Ruth Minor; and

12 WHEREAS, excelling academically throughout her young life,
13 Dr. Minor enrolled in gifted classes in elementary school, and in
14 middle school she attended the Medcorp summer program, which was
15 sponsored by the University of Mississippi Medical Center and was
16 designed to expose children from under-privileged areas of the
17 state to a possible future in the healthcare field, and while



18 participating in the program, she attended classes at both Jackson
19 State University and Alcorn State University; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Minor attended Hazlehurst High School and was
21 tremendously active in various student organizations, such as the
22 Beta Club, SADD Club, Student Government Association, yearbook
23 staff and Health Occupations Students of America, and she also
24 represented the student body as Miss Hazlehurst High School; and

25 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school as valedictorian
26 in 2004, Dr. Minor earned her bachelor's degree in biology from
27 Alcorn State University, graduating summa cum laude, and during
28 her time there, she was a member of the Alcorn State University
29 Gospel Choir, Honor Student Organization, Beta Kappa Chi Honor
30 Society and the Tri-Beta Honor Society, and she served as
31 president of the Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society and as the
32 treasurer and chairman of the finance and budget committee of the
33 Delta Epsilon chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, throughout high school and college, Dr. Minor
36 intended to pursue a career in the healthcare industry, and by
37 observing various healthcare professionals and by having a desire
38 to improve the self-esteem of others by enhancing their smiles,
39 she decided to pursue a career in orthodontics; and

40 WHEREAS, Dr. Minor attended dental school as a Robert Hearin
41 Scholar at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where she
42 served as president of the local Student National Dental



43 Association and as secretary of the local Hispanic Student Dental
44 Association, and upon completion of dental school in 2012, Dr.
45 Minor received her Doctorate of Dental Medicine, and then she
46 furthered her education by completing Howard University's
47 postdoctoral orthodontic residency program in Washington, D.C.,
48 where she received her Certificate in Orthodontics in May 2014;
49 and

50 WHEREAS, upon returning to her home state of Mississippi, Dr.
51 Minor became the Magnolia State's first African-American female
52 orthodontist, and in November 2014 she opened her practice, Smile
53 Design Orthodontics, in Pearl, Mississippi, where she provides
54 services such as traditional metal braces, clear (ceramic) braces,
55 Invisalign, and several other types of orthodontic treatments, and
56 she also practices in Vicksburg and McComb; and

57 WHEREAS, Dr. Minor was honored with the opportunity to be the
58 keynote speaker at the 2015 Hazlehurst High School graduation and
59 at the 2017 Alcorn State University Mid-Winter Conference, and
60 because her story is an encouragement to those who intend to excel
61 academically and reach their goals, she is often asked to speak at
62 various churches and schools to encourage youth in small towns by
63 sharing her story, and her message to these young people is, "If I
64 can do it, so can you. With determination, hard work, a positive
65 attitude, motivation and trust in God, all things are possible.";
66 and



67 WHEREAS, being dedicated to educating the community about the
68 importance of proper oral healthcare and the impact that
69 orthodontics has on physical appearance and overall self-esteem,
70 Dr. Minor's goal is to provide high quality orthodontic treatment
71 and enhance each patient's smile, and at Smile Design
72 Orthodontics, Dr. Minor strives to ensure that her patients feel
73 like family when they visit her office; and

74 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
75 commend outstanding Mississippians, especially those such as Dr.
76 Minor, who inspire young people throughout the state to achieve
77 their goals in life despite any challenges they may face and whose
78 steadfast commitment to her patients brings honor to her family,
79 her community and to the State of Mississippi:

80 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
81 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
82 commend Dr. Chandra M. Minor, DMD, for being the first
83 African-American female orthodontist in the State of Mississippi,
84 and extend best wishes for success in all of her future endeavors.

85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
86 furnished to Dr. Chandra M. Minor, DMD, and to the members of the
87 Capitol Press Corps.

