

By: Representative Mims

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9

1 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. HARRY C.
2 FRYE, JR., AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY AND
3 FRIENDS UPON HIS PASSING.

4 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To
5 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under
6 the Heaven," and as such, on January 10, 2021, the immaculate
7 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal
8 presence of dearly beloved, Dr. Harry C. Frye, Jr., to eternal
9 rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to his family and friends;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, born on September 2, 1923, to Mr. Harry C. Frye,
12 Sr., and Mrs. Evelyn R. Frye, in Kansas City, Missouri, Dr. Frye
13 spent his early childhood days in Newton, Mississippi, and
14 subsequently moved to Jackson, Mississippi, where he met the love
15 of his life, Ms. Helen McGehee, when they both attended Central
16 High School; and



17 WHEREAS, as friends appropriately termed them "the constant
18 couple," the two went on to attend Millsaps College, until World
19 War II intervened, and Dr. Frye joined the United States Army; and

20 WHEREAS, the "constant couple" united in holy matrimony on
21 April 24, 1944, immediately before Dr. Frye was deployed to
22 Europe, where he served as a Sergeant in the 26th Infantry
23 Division, Canon Company, a part of General George Patton's Third
24 Army, and for his service during the Battle of the Bulge, which
25 was one of the greatest land battles ever fought and won by the
26 United States Army, he was honored with the Bronze Star; and

27 WHEREAS, upon his return from the war effort, Dr. Frye
28 contracted polio, which created in him a desire to become a
29 physician, and as he was mentored by his friend, the great public
30 health champion Dr. Felix Underwood, who encouraged him to enter
31 medicine and specifically, public health, he went on to attend
32 Tulane Medical School under the firm tutelage of Dr. Alton
33 Oschner, graduating in 1951; and

34 WHEREAS, Dr. Frye then completed a Family Practice residency
35 at Vicksburg's Mercy Hospital, and joined the staff at Beacham
36 Memorial Hospital in 1952, where he practiced family medicine for
37 65 years; and

38 WHEREAS, emphasizing that the heart of medicine is the
39 patient/doctor relationship, Dr. Frye's simple motto was, "Be
40 available and take care of them," and because of his outstanding
41 character, integrity and dedication to his patients and to the



practice of medicine, he was the McComb Enterprise Journal recipient of the Life Achievement Award, and in 2005, the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians named him "Family Physician of the Year"; and

WHEREAS, in his spare time, Dr. Frye was known to be an avid golfer at Fernwood Country Club and had a lifelong passion for swimming, and he was also a talented musician, playing the alto sax and clarinet in his younger days, and in high school he was awarded "best clarinet player in the state," and played Miller and Dorsey "Big Band" tunes in swing bands; and

WHEREAS, committed to civic, church and community organizations, Dr. Frye joined the Mississippi State Medical Association in 1951, and remained an active member throughout his career, and he served on the South Pike School Board for 47 years, many of them as president, and because his steady leadership guided them through many difficult times, the Educational Services Building in Magnolia, Mississippi, is named in his honor; and

WHEREAS, since 1952, Dr. Frye was a faithful member of Magnolia United Methodist Church, where he served in many capacities, including chairman of the administrative board, and he was a longtime member of the board of directors of First Bank, and also served as president of the board of Fernwood Country Club and South Pike Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Frye became a resident of Camellia Estates in 2017, and before entering the nursing home, at age 93, he was



67 walking the halls at Beacham, checking on all the patients, and
68 his service to others continued after becoming a resident at
69 Camellia Estates, as he offered compassionate counseling and
70 advice to his fellow residents when requested; and

71 WHEREAS, a genuine and distinguished man, Dr. Frye's
72 extraordinary devotion to his family and to his community will
73 always be remembered, and precious memories of time spent with him
74 will hopefully continue to provide warmth, peace and comfort to
75 his loved ones; and

76 WHEREAS, though he has traversed the river of life to reunite
77 with those who answered God's summons to life eternal and now
78 beckon his arrival to the celestial shores of Heaven's grandeur,
79 such as his wife of 74 years, Mrs. Helen McGehee Frye, and
80 daughter, Betsy Frye Randall, the legacy of Dr. Frye's indelible
81 imprint upon our lives will continue to refresh the hearts and
82 fond memories of his loved ones, including his children, Nancy
83 McElwee and Charles Frye; grandchildren, Elizabeth McElwee,
84 Brinson Wall and Mary Helen Wall; great-grandchildren, Kaylea,
85 Charles "CJ" Johnson and Hana Wall; and a host of other relatives
86 and dear friends; and

87 WHEREAS, Dr. Frye will forever be loved, cherished and missed
88 by all who knew him, and since it is written in 2 Corinthians 5:8,
89 that to be "absent from the body is to be present with the Lord,"
90 his family and friends can find peace and comfort during this
91 difficult time; and



92

93 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
94 recognize and commend the lives of outstanding Mississippians,
95 especially those such as Dr. Frye, who certainly inspired everyone
96 he met and whose life's light illuminated the path of hope for all
97 he encountered along his earthly sojourn:

98 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
99 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
100 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Harry C.
101 Frye, Jr., and express sincere and deepest sympathy to his family
102 and friends upon his passing.

103 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
104 furnished to the family of Dr. Harry C. Frye, Jr., and to the
105 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

