

By: Representatives Clarke, Aguirre, Anderson (110th), Anderson (122nd), Anthony, Arnold, Bailey, Bain, Banks, Barnett, Barton, Bell (21st), Bell (65th), Bennett, Blackmon, Bomgar, Bounds, Boyd (19th), Boyd (37th), Brown (20th), Brown (70th), Burnett, Busby, Byrd, Calvert, Carpenter, Clark, Cockerham, Crawford, Creekmore IV, Criswell, Crudup, Currie, Darnell, Denton, Deweese, Eubanks, Eure, Evans (45th), Evans (91st), Faulkner, Felsher, Ford (54th), Ford (73rd), Foster, Gibbs, Goodin, Guice, Gunn, Hale, Haney, Harness, Hobgood-Wilkes, Holloway, Hood, Hopkins, Horan, Horne, Huddleston, Hulum, Jackson, Johnson, Karriem, Kinkade, Ladner, Lamar, Lancaster, Mangold, Massengill, McCarty, McCray, McGee, McKnight, McLean, McLeod, Mickens, Miles, Mims, Morgan, Newman, Oliver, Osborne, Owen, Paden, Patterson, Pigott, Porter, Powell, Read, Reynolds, Roberson, Robinson, Rosebud, Rushing, Sanders, Sanford, Scoggin, Scott, Shanks, Smith, Stamps, Steverson, Straughter, Summers, Taylor, Thompson, Tubb, Tullos, Turner, Walker, Wallace, Watson, Weathersby, White, Williamson, Yancey, Yates, Young, Zuber

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 26

1 A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. FREDA  
2 MCKISSIC BUSH, AND EXPRESSING DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HER FAMILY AND  
3 FRIENDS UPON HER 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 15, 2023, the immaculate  
7 author and finisher of our soul's destiny summoned the mortal  
8 presence of dearly beloved, Dr. Freda McKissic Bush, to eternal  
9 rest, rendering great sorrow and loss to her family, friends and  
10 community; and

11 WHEREAS, born on February 25, 1947, to Mr. James E. McKissic  
12 and Mrs. Rosa Daniels-McKissic, in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Dr. Bush  
13 devoted her outstanding career to women's health for over fifty  
14 years; and



15 WHEREAS, dedicated to academic excellence, Dr. Bush graduated  
16 from the University of Arkansas School of Nursing and practiced as  
17 a nurse, and later, she graduated from Columbia University, and  
18 became a nurse-midwife, and she decided to further her education,  
19 and went on to graduate from the University of Mississippi Medical  
20 School, and in 1987, she completed her residency training at the  
21 University of Tennessee in Memphis, Tennessee; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush was a practicing OB-GYN in Jackson,  
23 Mississippi, from 1987, until her retirement in February 2017, and  
24 was a clinical instructor in the OB-GYN department and family  
25 medicine department at the University of Mississippi Medical  
26 Center; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush was a partner in private practice with East  
28 Lakeland OB-GYN and Associates in Jackson, a Fellow of the  
29 American College OB-GYN, and a board member of the American  
30 Association of Pro-life OB-GYN, and served as a member of the  
31 Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure from 1996 until 2006,  
32 including a term as president from 2000 until 2002, and later, she  
33 assumed the position of chair of the Federation of State Medical  
34 Boards' (FSMB) Board of Directors in 2010, and in February 2012,  
35 she became President/CEO of the Medical Institute for Sexual  
36 Health; and

37 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush co-authored two books with Joe S.  
38 McIlhaney, M.D.: *HOOKED, New Science on How Casual Sex is*  
39 *Affecting Our Children*, and the last book released in January



40 2012, *Girls Uncovered, New Research on What America's Sexual*  
41 *Culture Does to Young Women*, and she was a contributing writer to  
42 *Faith Matters: How African American Faith Communities Can Help*  
43 *Prevent Teen Pregnancy* published by the National Campaign to  
44 Prevent Teen Pregnancy; and

45 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush also served as a member of the Mississippi  
46 Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Teen Pregnancy Prevention,  
47 chair of the Medical Advisory Subcommittee, a presidential  
48 appointee to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)  
49 from 2006 until 2009, member of the Physician's Resource Council  
50 for Focus on the Family, a medical advisor for Heartbeat  
51 International and CareNet, and medical director for the Center for  
52 Pregnancy Choices, Metro Jackson; and

53 WHEREAS, during her distinguished career, much of Dr. Bush's  
54 time was spent speaking on sexual health, sexually transmitted  
55 diseases, and social behavior education, and she presented  
56 seminars for health professionals, educators, parents, and youth  
57 in several cities and states, and co-sponsored a conference in  
58 Jackson for seven years; and

59 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush was interviewed on several television  
60 programs as well as numerous radio programs, including: Focus on  
61 the Family and Family Life Today with Dr. James Dobson, Focus on  
62 the Family with Dr. Jim Daly, and Family Life Today with Dennis  
63 Rainey, and she also published articles in the *Journal of Medical*



64 *Regulation, The MS State Medical Association Journal, Christianity*  
65 *Today, Charisma Magazine, and Christian Living Metro Jackson; and*

66 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush was a proud resident of Jackson,  
67 Mississippi, and gave back to her community of West Jackson and to  
68 others, and her faith and light shone brightly and touched  
69 everyone she encountered, and she was also a dedicated member of  
70 New Horizons Church in Jackson; and

71 WHEREAS, though she has traversed the river of life to  
72 reunite with those who answered God's summons to life eternal and  
73 now beckon her arrival to the celestial shores of Heaven's  
74 grandeur, the legacy of Dr. Bush's indelible imprint upon our  
75 lives will continue to refresh the hearts and fond memories of her  
76 loved ones, including her husband of 53 years, Mr. Lee Bush; four  
77 children; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a host  
78 of other relatives and dear friends; and

79 WHEREAS, Dr. Bush will forever be loved, cherished and missed  
80 by all who knew her, and since it is written in 2 Corinthians 5:8,  
81 that to be "absent from the body is to be present with the Lord,"  
82 her family and friends can find peace and comfort during this  
83 difficult time; and

84 WHEREAS, a genuine and lovely lady of exceptional character,  
85 Dr. Bush's outstanding legacy will continue for generations to  
86 come, and precious memories of time spent with her will hopefully  
87 continue to provide warmth, peace and comfort to her loved ones;  
88 and



89           WHEREAS, it is most appropriate to recognize and honor the  
90 lives of great Mississippians, especially those such as Dr. Bush,  
91 a wonderful lady whose life's light illuminated the path of hope  
92 for all she encountered along this earthly sojourn:

93           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
94 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
95 mourn the loss and honor the life and legacy of Dr. Freda McKissic  
96 Bush, and express deepest sympathy to her family and friends upon  
97 her passing.

98           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
99 furnished to the family of Dr. Freda McKissic Bush, and to the  
100 members of the Capitol Press Corps.

