

By: Senator(s) McMahan, Michel

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 542

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE  
2 SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OF DR. ROY J. DUHE OF MADISON,  
3 MISSISSIPPI, WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN COLON CANCER INITIATIVES AT  
4 THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER (UMMC).

5 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in  
6 the United States and the second leading cause of death from  
7 cancers that affect both men and women. Colorectal cancer affects  
8 people in all racial and ethnic groups and is most common in  
9 people age 50 and older; and

10 WHEREAS, Roy J. Duhe of Madison, Mississippi, who has a PhD  
11 in Biochemistry, retired from UMMC as a Professor of Pharmacology  
12 and Radiation Oncology and has been instrumental in colon cancer  
13 initiatives in Mississippi that include:

14 • Mississippi Colon Cancer Roundtable (MSCCRT). In  
15 association with the American Cancer Society, this program  
16 organizes interested parties in the state to promote colon cancer  
17 initiatives and promote quality care in Mississippi for colon  
18 cancer; and



19           • The state license plate for colon cancer, which was the  
20 first in the nation and helped fund work on colon cancer research;  
21 and

22           • Started and worked tirelessly for the state initiative of  
23 "70 by 2020" for colon cancer screening; and

24           WHEREAS, before his state initiative, the percentage of colon  
25 cancer screening for eligible Mississippian's was 52%; however,  
26 the national campaign was "80 by 2018." Recognizing the national  
27 goal was unrealistic for Mississippi, Dr. Duhe initiated "70 by  
28 20." Since that initiative and through hard work by Dr. Duhe and  
29 his staff, the percentage in Mississippi is now over 70%. The  
30 rise in numbers has a profound effect on Mississippians and their  
31 health; and

32           WHEREAS, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month is observed in  
33 March to highlight the importance of screening for colorectal  
34 cancer, as well as to promote healthy lifestyle habits that can  
35 decrease a person's risk of developing the three distinct cancer  
36 types referred to collectively as colon cancer; and

37           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize a dedicated  
38 local Mississippi scientist whose research and patient screening  
39 have had a strong, positive impact on the health of  
40 Mississippians:

41           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
42 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
43 we do hereby recognize and commend the significant public health



44 service of Dr. Roy J. Duhe of Madison, Mississippi, who was  
45 instrumental in colon cancer initiatives at the University of  
46 Mississippi Medical Center, and thank Dr. Duhe and his family for  
47 their dedication.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Board of Health  
49 continue to disseminate public information regarding the danger of  
50 colon cancer and the importance of screening.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
52 Dr. Duhe and his family, forwarded to the Dean of UMMC and made  
53 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

