

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Blount, Hopson,
McCaughn, McLendon, Thomas, Williams

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 533

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING
2 MISSISSIPPI METHODIST HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER FOR 50
3 YEARS OF RESTORING ABILITIES AND HOPE TO THOSE WHO HAVE
4 EXPERIENCED DISABLING ILLNESSES AND INJURIES.

5 WHEREAS, Mississippi Methodist Hospital and Rehabilitation
6 Center (Methodist Rehabilitation), a nonprofit freestanding
7 comprehensive rehabilitation hospital located in Jackson,
8 Mississippi, has served the citizens of Mississippi and beyond
9 with unwavering dedication for 50 years, offering hope, healing,
10 and restored independence to hundreds of thousands of patients
11 with brain and spinal injuries, stroke, and other neurological and
12 orthopedic conditions; and

13 WHEREAS, the concept for Methodist Rehabilitation Center and
14 the need for such a facility were first discussed in 1955, 15
15 years before ground was broken on the current facility. After
16 attending a series of vocational rehabilitation seminars, the late
17 Dr. Jesse L. Wofford and Frank Hart began to push for a
18 rehabilitation facility in Mississippi. In 1968, a permanent
19 board of trustees was named. Authorized by the University of



20 Mississippi Medical Center, the Mississippi Methodist Conference
21 and the Mississippi Department of Vocational Rehabilitation,
22 Methodist Rehabilitation Center would be guided by the board,
23 comprised of Chairman Earl R. Wilson, Vice Chairman Hilton Ladner,
24 Secretary Dean M. Miller, Dan Breland, Frank E. Hart, Sr., Dr.
25 Jesse L. Wofford, the Reverend Robert Kates, William H. Mounger,
26 the Reverend Harold Peden and John H. Webb, Jr. When the first
27 shovel of dirt was turned on December 8, 1970, and construction of
28 the Center began, none present could have imagined the
29 accomplishments the facility would amass in its first
30 half-century; and

31 WHEREAS, recognizing Mississippi's critical lack of
32 rehabilitative care facilities for catastrophic injury patients,
33 including those with strokes, brain injuries, and spinal cord
34 injuries, the founders of Methodist Rehabilitation established the
35 institution to fill this void and prevent patients from seeking
36 treatment out of state; and

37 WHEREAS, since admitting its first patient on May 5, 1975,
38 Methodist Rehabilitation stands unparalleled in its field and has
39 become a place where miracles happen—where patients who once
40 believed they would never walk again are walking, where those who
41 thought they would never work again are earning a living, and
42 where individuals who once faced a lifetime in a hospital are now
43 living independently and thriving in their communities; and



44 WHEREAS, over the past five decades, Methodist Rehabilitation
45 expanded the hospital's capacity from 60 beds to 124 beds, adding
46 four floors and has continually expanded its innovative services
47 to improve access to care, including specialized outpatient
48 therapy clinics and statewide orthotics and prosthetics clinics,
49 which help patients regain function and reclaim their futures; and

50 WHEREAS, in 1998, Methodist Rehabilitation established the
51 Center for Neuroscience and Neurological Recovery, pioneering
52 important research to improve treatment outcomes, producing
53 several hundred publications disseminated worldwide, and advancing
54 the global understanding of rehabilitation medicine; and

55 WHEREAS, in 2004, Methodist Rehabilitation opened the
56 Methodist Specialty Care Center, Mississippi's only facility
57 dedicated to the long-term care of adults with severe
58 disabilities, providing a breathtakingly beautiful and efficient
59 home where residents can thrive, remain active, and enjoy life
60 under the compassionate care of skilled professionals; and

61 WHEREAS, Methodist Rehabilitation was the first hospital in
62 Mississippi to be named one of America's Best Hospitals by *U.S.*
63 *News & World Report*, and was recognized a second time, a testament
64 to its excellence in rehabilitative medicine; and

65 WHEREAS, Methodist Rehabilitation has provided advanced
66 clinical educational opportunities for thousands of students,
67 including residency training for physicians and physical



68 therapists, clinical rotations for nursing and therapy students
69 and occupational therapy Capstone Project students; and

70 WHEREAS, Methodist Rehabilitation's contributions to
71 Mississippi's health care landscape have been truly
72 transformational, setting a high standard for rehabilitation
73 medicine and ensuring that individuals with disabilities receive
74 the care, resources, and support necessary to lead fulfilling
75 lives; and

76 WHEREAS, Methodist Rehabilitation has upheld its mission as a
77 nonprofit hospital, continuously reinvesting in innovative
78 technology and clinical programs, ensuring that individuals
79 receive the specialized care they need regardless of their
80 financial circumstances; and

81 WHEREAS, it is with great pride we recognize and commend
82 Mississippi Methodist Hospital and Rehabilitation Center for 50
83 years of extraordinary contributions to the state of Mississippi
84 and for its continued commitment to restoring ability and hope to
85 all those it serves:

86 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
87 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
88 we do hereby recognize and commend Mississippi Methodist Hospital
89 and Rehabilitation Center for five decades of restoring
90 independence and improving lives, and extend our deepest gratitude
91 to the physicians, researchers, health care professionals, staff,



92 and volunteers who have made this institution a beacon of hope and
93 healing for so many.

94 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
95 the Director and the Board of Directors of Mississippi Methodist
96 Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, and made available to the
97 Capitol Press Corps.

