

By: Senator(s) Blackwell, Boyd, Parker,
Bryan, Hopson

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING DR. PHYLLIS POLK
2 JOHNSON, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MISSISSIPPI
3 BOARD OF NURSING, UPON HER APPOINTMENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE
4 NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING (NCSBN).

5 WHEREAS, we join the nursing profession in honoring Dr.
6 Phyllis Polk Johnson, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, presently serving as
7 Executive Director of the Mississippi Board of Nursing, upon her
8 appointment to the prestigious position as President of the
9 National Council of State Boards of Nursing; and

10 WHEREAS, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing
11 empowers and supports nursing regulators in their mandate to
12 protect the public. Members are comprised of nursing regulatory
13 bodies in all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, American
14 Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson has risen through the organization's
17 ranks and currently serves as President of the National Council of
18 State Boards of Nursing while continuing to promote the practice
19 of nursing in the State of Mississippi; and



20 WHEREAS, the Mississippi Board of Nursing is a consumer
21 protection agency vested with authority to regulate the practice
22 of nursing through licensure as provided in the Mississippi State
23 Code. Since being appointed MSBON Executive Director in 2017, Dr.
24 Johnson has been responsible for the oversight of almost 70,000
25 nurses in the state (RNs, LPNs, and Advanced Practice Registered
26 Nurses); and

27 WHEREAS, prior to being named the Executive Director of
28 MSBON, Dr. Johnson served as the Director of Advanced Practice and
29 Licensure for the board where she was responsible for the
30 regulation of licensure, compliance, and discipline for the more
31 than 5,000 Advanced Practice Nurses (Nurse Practitioners, Nurse
32 Midwives, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists) in the
33 state. She has held numerous clinical and managerial
34 responsibilities in her more than 35 years of nursing; and

35 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson is very active in the civic affairs of
36 her state and community, serving as the Chairman of the Madison
37 County Business League and Foundation Health & Well-Being
38 Committee and receiving the 2019 Mississippi's Business Woman of
39 the Year - *Mississippi Business Journal* and the 2021 Madison
40 County Economic Development Authority Visionary Leadership Award;
41 and

42 WHEREAS, a native of Carthage, Mississippi, Dr. Johnson
43 attended South Leake High School in Walnut Grove, where she
44 graduated as salutatorian of her class. She received her BSN (Cum



Laude) and MSN degrees from the Mississippi University for Women. She also holds a Master of Science degree from Jackson State University in Biology with an emphasis in Genetics and Molecular Biology. She received her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Alcorn State University and graduated with a 4.0 grade point average while leading the MSBON; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson was appointed to the Governor's Opioid and Heroin Drug Task Force in December 2016. Dr. Johnson has been instrumental in developing rules and regulations while on the board pertaining to the prescribing practices of Advanced Practice Nurses; and

WHEREAS, other appointments Dr. Johnson has received include the Governor's COVID-19 Advisory Board, the NCSBN National Licensure Compact Executive Committee, the Jackson State University COVID-19 Advisory Board, the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure's Advisory Committee for Physician Assistants, and the Advisory Committee for the Project Change Initiative of My Brother's Keeper; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Dr. Phyllis Polk Johnson retired as a decorated officer in the United States Navy Reserves having achieved the rank of Commander. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, where she is active in the Jackson Mississippi Alumnae Chapter; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson is known for her tireless work ethic and desire to excel which was instilled by her parents. She has



70 established a culture of excellence for her employees and staff at
71 the MBON; and

72 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson is married to Clinton Johnson, Jr. She
73 is the mother of two sons, William and Trey, and the grandmother
74 of seven adoring grandchildren; and

75 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we acknowledge the
76 accomplishments and enormous professional and civic energy of a
77 health care professional who has brought honor to the nursing
78 profession, her community and to the State of Mississippi:

79 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
80 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize and congratulate Dr.
81 Phyllis Polk Johnson, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, Executive Director of the
82 Mississippi Board of Nursing, upon her appointment as President of
83 the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), and
84 extend the best wishes of the Mississippi Senate for her continued
85 success.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
87 Dr. Johnson, forwarded to the Mississippi Board of Nursing and the
88 NCSBN, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

