

By: Senator(s) Dawkins, Ross, Michel, Hyde-Smith, Little

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 537

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. RALPH B. VANCE UPON  
2 HIS BEING NAMED PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Ralph B. Vance, a University of Mississippi  
4 Medical Center oncologist, will lead the American Cancer Society  
5 as President in the year 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, the society's announcement naming Dr. Vance first  
7 vice president this year means he will become president of the  
8 society in 2003 as he moves up a line of succession; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Vance was originally scheduled to become  
10 president of the society in 2004, but his succession was  
11 accelerated when President Bush named American Cancer Society  
12 President-elect Andrew von Eschenbach as Director of the National  
13 Cancer Institute (NCI); and

14 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society traditionally taps its  
15 presidents in advance to ensure businesslike transitions; and

16 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society, one of the nation's  
17 leading nonprofit health care organizations, is a nationwide  
18 community-based voluntary health organization with more than two  
19 million volunteers, and has a \$750 Million budget dedicated to  
20 research grants, cancer control and epidemiology, patient care  
21 programs, quality of life issues and advocacy; and

22 WHEREAS, the society is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a  
23 major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and  
24 diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education,  
25 advocacy and service; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Ralph B. Vance will be the first Mississippian  
27 to serve as president of the society; and



28           WHEREAS, a Jackson native, Dr. Vance earned a Bachelor of  
29 Art's degree from the University of Mississippi, majoring in  
30 biology and German, before attending medical school at UMMC; and

31           WHEREAS, after Dr. Vance graduated from medical school and  
32 completed his internship and residency, all at UMMC, the American  
33 Cancer Society helped launch his career by granting him a  
34 fellowship at UMMC supported by a stipend; and

35           WHEREAS, in 1979, Dr. Vance volunteered with an American  
36 Cancer Society unit in Hinds County, and later became involved  
37 with the society's Mississippi division, serving as president in  
38 1982 and, again, in 1986; and

39           WHEREAS, currently an oncologist at UMMC, Dr. Vance has  
40 served in numerous positions, including Chief of Staff and  
41 President of University Clinical Associates; and

42           WHEREAS, Dr. Vance has been a member of the Southwest  
43 Oncology Group since 1978, served on four National Cancer  
44 Institute committees, is the author of more than 70 papers,  
45 abstracts and book chapters, and has made more than 125 speeches  
46 or presentations locally, nationally and internationally; and

47           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
48 the accomplishments and contributions of its outstanding citizens:

49           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
50 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
51 we do hereby commend Dr. Ralph B. Vance upon his being named  
52 President of the American Cancer Society.

53           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
54 presented to Dr. Ralph Vance and made available to the Capitol  
55 Press Corps.

