

By: Representatives Masterson, Barnett,  
Bondurant

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MISSISSIPPI STATE  
2 MEDICAL ASSOCIATION UPON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

3 WHEREAS, the Mississippi State Medical Association was  
4 founded in 1856 for the purpose of uniting the medical profession  
5 in Mississippi to advance medical knowledge, devising a standard  
6 of medical education and enacting and enforcing just medical laws  
7 in order that the profession could better serve the public; and

8 WHEREAS, one of the first official acts of the association  
9 was to request that the Mississippi Legislature create a State  
10 Board of Health, which was subsequently created in 1877; and

11 WHEREAS, despite losing ten percent of its members to yellow  
12 fever, the association took the leadership role in fighting the  
13 yellow fever epidemic that devastated the entire state in 1879;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, at the urging of the association, the Mississippi  
16 Legislature, in 1882, enacted the first Medical Practice Act,  
17 which was later strengthened in 1899 to require that medical  
18 doctors be licensed by the State of Mississippi; and

19 WHEREAS, the association's efforts in 1895 led to the  
20 establishment by the Legislature of the State Department of Public  
21 Health; and

22 WHEREAS, in subsequent years the association's efforts have  
23 led to the establishment of Mississippi's only medical school, the  
24 Bureau of Vital Statistics in the Mississippi Department of  
25 Health, a sanatorium devoted to the treatment of tuberculosis, the  
26 eleemosynary board to oversee the state charity hospitals,

27 educational standards for medical licensure and the Office of  
28 State Medical Examiner; and

29 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature to recognize and  
30 commend the work and contributions of such organizations as the  
31 Mississippi State Medical Association, which has pioneered growth  
32 and the advancement of health care throughout the state:

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
34 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
35 THEREIN, That on the occasion of its 150th year anniversary, the  
36 Mississippi State Medical Association be commended for its  
37 advancement of high ethical standards among physicians, its  
38 insistence on the highest standards in medical education and  
39 training, and its leadership in the establishment of numerous  
40 state public health institutions, practices and facilities.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
42 furnished to the Mississippi State Medical Association and to the  
43 members of the Capitol Press Corps.