

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011

SR 25

4  
5 By: Senator Rapert  
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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 COMMENDING CARE CAP CONNECTIONS COMMUNITY CANCER  
9 PROJECT FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR MARY L. PHILIPS.  
10

11 **Subtitle**

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13 COMMENDING CARE CAP CONNECTIONS COMMUNITY  
14 CANCER PROJECT FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR MARY  
15 L. PHILIPS.  
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17 WHEREAS, in late 2005, Mary L. Philips, a woman who retired after  
18 thirty (30) years as a public school teacher, left her Texas home to return  
19 to family roots in Arkansas; her sister Linda had been diagnosed with  
20 terminal cancer and lost her hair from chemotherapy; Mrs. Philips began to  
21 sew head scarves for her sister, and her sister used the scarves and took  
22 some to chemotherapy sessions to share with other women undergoing  
23 chemotherapy; and by 2006, Mrs. Philips, assisted by Linda and church members  
24 in Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, created the Care Cap Connections project; and  
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26 WHEREAS, Care Caps organized itself in Fairfield Bay, using community  
27 volunteers meeting monthly for a "sew-in"; Chesapeake Energy provided start-  
28 up funds, Janome Corporation of America gave sewing machines, Marshall Dry  
29 Goods in Batesville, Arkansas, provided fabrics, and several individuals  
30 contributed funds and customizing for a cargo trailer; and Mrs. Philips took  
31 her project on the road with oversight provided by local officers and a board  
32 of advisors; and  
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34 WHEREAS, from the one team at Fairfield Bay and one cancer center at MD  
35 Anderson Center, Mrs. Philips now has set up additional groups in Greenbrier,  
36 Arkansas, UAMS-Little Rock, Little Rock Air Force Base, Diamondhead, Hendrix



1 College, Pine Bluff's Southeast Department of Community Correction, and  
2 Converse, Louisiana; Mrs. Philips leads her sew-ins personally on a monthly  
3 basis; over one thousand five hundred (1,500) women, men, and youth help with  
4 cutting, pinning, sewing, ironing, and preparing shipments; and they meet in  
5 public buildings and churches, all funded by donations from individuals,  
6 churches, corporations, and foundations; and

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8 WHEREAS, about one thousand one hundred (1,100) care caps go to cancer  
9 centers and individuals each month and all without charge; and as of January  
10 2011, more than thirty-one thousand five hundred (31,500) have reached  
11 patients across America; and cancer centers receiving and distributing caps  
12 are coast to coast; and

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14 WHEREAS, besides Mrs. Philips' direct leadership, three (3) teams have  
15 spun off with one in Heber Springs, Arkansas ("Love Caps"), another in  
16 Orlando, Florida ("Sunshine Caps"), and in San Antonio, Texas ("The Coker  
17 Project"); Mrs. Philips would like to see more because her personal efforts  
18 are limited by distance and time; and to move the project along, she hopes  
19 for funds to produce an instructional video that will inform the public,  
20 recruit leaders and helpers, and show the step-by-step process in making caps  
21 for distribution; and

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23 WHEREAS, Care Caps are made in a team setting, and each team has a  
24 unique character and dynamic, but all continue to grow because volunteers  
25 feel they have a worthy project; the cancer need is very great; the product  
26 is high quality; sew-ins are fun to attend; and love links the maker through  
27 the cancer facility to the receiver; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, Mrs. Philips resides at Fairfield Bay with her husband,  
30 Constable Ingram Philips, Colonel (Retired), United States Army; was born in  
31 Lymington, England, and is a graduate of Texas Tech and Texas A&M; received a  
32 Master's degree and has additional post-graduate education; is the mother of  
33 C. Eric Nielson of San Francisco and grandmother of Catherine Lord of  
34 Alexandria, Virginia; besides enjoying sewing, is an avid reader and is  
35 interested in global history and current affairs; enjoys domestic and  
36 international travel and lived in Germany for nine (9) years; and is in her

1 sixth year at home in Arkansas,

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

5 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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7 THAT the Senate commends Mary L. Philips for her work on behalf of  
8 cancer patients and the success of the organization she founded and directs,  
9 Care Cap Connections community cancer project.

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate  
12 copy shall be provided to Mrs. Philips by the Secretary of the Senate.

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