

By: Moffatt, Tollison, Robertson, Michel,
Carmichael, Burton, Chamberlin, Scoper,
Harvey, Kirby, Farris, Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 522

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 THREE MISSISSIPPI DIVISION I-A FOOTBALL TEAMS FOR BEING RANKED IN
3 THE FINAL COLLEGE FOOTBALL POLLS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY.

4 WHEREAS, 1999 was surely the best collegiate football season
5 in Mississippi history, with the three Division I-A football teams
6 being ranked in the Top 25 in the Final College Football Polls for
7 the first time ever; and

8 WHEREAS, Peach Bowl champion Mississippi State, 10-2, led the
9 way with the second highest rankings in school history, 13th in
10 The Associated Press poll, 12th in the USA Today/ESPN poll; and

11 WHEREAS, Liberty Bowl champion Southern Mississippi, 9-3,
12 achieved the highest rankings in school history, 14th in the AP
13 poll and 13th in the USA Today/ESPN poll; and

14 WHEREAS, Independence Bowl champion Ole Miss, 8-4 and 22nd in
15 both polls, made the final AP rankings for the 20th time, more
16 than any other Mississippi team; and

17 WHEREAS, the Southeastern Conference and the Big Ten
18 Conference led the nation by placing seven teams in the AP Top 25,
19 selected by a nationwide panel of 70 sports writers and
20 broadcasters, and the Southeastern Conference also placed seven
21 teams in the USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll; and

22 WHEREAS, the numbers, where the state's three Division I-A
23 schools are concerned, tell a most impressive story: 27 victories
24 against only 9 defeats; a .750 winning percentage; three bowl
25 victories for the first time ever; three Top 25 teams for the
26 first time ever; one conference championship (Southern Mississippi

27 in Conference USA); the nation's No. 1 defense, Mississippi State;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, as the 1999 season progressed, the question was
30 asked by national sports commentators, "How does such a small
31 state, with so many schools, produce such quality teams?", and the
32 answer is that football is important in Mississippi, a state which
33 has produced Archie Manning, Walter Payton, Jerry Rice, Brett
34 Favre, Steve McNair, Shorty McWilliams and so many more; and

35 WHEREAS, as we anxiously await the football seasons which lie
36 ahead in the 21st Century, we recognize with pride the great
37 accomplishments of these student athletes who have brought such
38 honor to their universities, their communities and to the State of
39 Mississippi:

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
41 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
42 we do hereby commend and congratulate the three Mississippi
43 Division I-A university football squads upon being ranked in the
44 Top 25 of the Final College Football Polls for the first time in
45 history, and wish all of these teams continued success in their
46 future athletic, scholastic and life endeavors.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
48 the Coaches of all three Mississippi Division I-A football teams
49 on behalf of the team members, and be forwarded to the athletic
50 directors and president/chancellor of each university, and to the
51 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, and be
52 made available to the Capitol Press Corps.