

By: Michel

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 587

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
2 CHANCELLOR ROBERT "BOB" KHAYAT, ALL-SEC FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL
3 PLAYER AT OLE MISS AND NFL FOOTBALL PLAYER, UPON HIS INDUCTION
4 INTO THE MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2000.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports
6 Hall of Fame unveiled the historic Class of 2000 of the
7 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, which features Robert Khayat, who
8 hails from Moss Point, was an All-SEC football and baseball star
9 at Ole Miss, played for the Washington Redskins, and now serves
10 his alma mater as chancellor; and

11 WHEREAS, his loyalty and devotion to the University of
12 Mississippi athletic and academic programs has earned him the
13 title of the "Man Who Never Forgot Ole Miss," his full name is
14 Robert Conrad Khayat; after graduating from Moss Point High,
15 Khayat arrived at Ole Miss where he was a two-sport athlete,
16 playing for renowned baseball coach Tom Swayze and legendary
17 football coach John Vaught; he played both sports in a golden era
18 of Rebel athletics in the late 1950's, as the Rebel catcher,
19 Khayat helped lead Ole Miss to back-to-back SEC championships in
20 1959 and 1960 as the baseball team compiled a 40-9 record in two
21 years; he was a two-time All-SEC baseball player in 1959 and 1960
22 along with diamond teammates Jake Gibbs, Jamie Howell, Billy Ray
23 Jones, and Larry Williams; Robert broke into the starting diamond
24 lineup as a sophomore and he earned three letters in 1958, 1959
25 and 1960; his .350 batting average as a junior ranked second on
26 the team; he smashed a grand slam home run in the third game of

27 the SEC title series win over Georgia Tech to highlight a six-run
28 first inning as the Rebs won 11-7; in his senior baseball season,
29 he hit .326 as the Rebels won their second straight SEC crown and
30 put together a 17-game winning streak on the way to a final 22-3
31 mark and No. 5 national ranking; on the gridiron, Khayat played
32 tackle and guard, but excelled as a place-kicker for Johnny
33 Vaught's best Rebel squads; in 1957, he made 8 of 10 extra points,
34 but was 0 for 1 in the field goal category; Khayat played in the
35 1958 Sugar Bowl and was three of four on P.A.T.s as the Rebels
36 hooked the Texas Longhorns by a total of 39-7; he honed his
37 kicking skills to perfection and led the nation in scoring by a
38 kicker in 1958 and 1959, the only player in school history to do
39 so in consecutive seasons; playing in the days of one platoon
40 football with limited substitution, Robert flourished at kicking
41 as he ranks 9th on the all-time kick scoring list in Ole Miss
42 history with 82 points, making 55 extra points and 9 field goals;
43 in the 1958 season, he was 25 of 29 on extra points and 4 of 8 on
44 field goals for a total of 24 points; he kicked the only extra
45 point for the Rebs in their 7-3 Gator Bowl win over Florida; he
46 scored 40 points in 1959, connecting on 25 extra points and 9
47 field goals; the 25 extra points rank 12th best all-time at Ole
48 Miss; the 1959 team was voted "SEC Team of the Decade" and crushed
49 LSU in the famed 1960 Sugar Bowl rematch by a 21-0 score; during
50 Robert's days as a Rebel football player, Ole Miss had an overall
51 record of 28 wins, 4 losses, and one tie; Khayat was selected as
52 an Academic All-American and Academic All-SEC player in 1959; he
53 participated in many campus activities including the YMCA, M-Club,
54 Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honors Fraternity, and several
55 others; he was voted Colonel Rebel by the student body, one of the
56 highest honors at Ole Miss, and he was also elected to the Ole
57 Miss student Hall of Fame; his involvement in the University's
58 Scholar's Program was instrumental in his life; following his
59 college career, he was the 6th pick by the Cleveland Browns in the
60 NFL draft, who traded him along with Francis O'Brien to the
61 Redskins for Sam Baker; he signed with Washington on April 25,
62 1960, and played in the Chicago All-Star game which matched

63 college all-stars against the NFL champions; from 1960 through his
64 final season in 1964, Khayat was a scoring star for the Redskins;
65 he played in 40 games, scoring 204 points; Khayat tied the
66 all-time Redskins record for most field goals in a single game as
67 he kicked 4 against the Dallas Cowboys on October 9, 1960, from
68 distances of 15, 29, 10, and 38 yards; he was elected to the 1961
69 Pro Bowl for his kicking performance; in mid-April 1961, he was
70 sidelined with a series of surgical operations beginning with an
71 emergency appendectomy; despite the medical setback, he completed
72 his career with Washington as one of their top scorers; while
73 performing in the NFL, Khayat pursued his law degree at the Ole
74 Miss Law School, finishing third in his class and earning his
75 Juris Doctor in 1966; his days in professional sports behind him,
76 Khayat immersed himself into the legal profession and entered
77 private practice in 1967 in Pascagoula; he served as Municipal
78 Court Judge for the City of Moss Point and developed a unique
79 expertise in local government law; in 1969, he was hired as a law
80 professor at the Ole Miss Law School on the Oxford campus; six
81 years later in 1975, he re-entered private law practice in Oxford
82 on leave from teaching until 1977; after returning to the
83 classroom, Khayat pursued a Master's in Law degree; he took a
84 leave of absence during the 1980-1981 academic year to attend Yale
85 Law School on the prestigious Sterling Fellowship; earning his
86 master's in the fall of 1981, he returned to Ole Miss as a law
87 professor; Khayat held the Vice Chancellor post until 1989 when he
88 left Ole Miss to take over as the first President of the NCAA
89 Foundation in Mission, Kansas; his duties with the NCAA involved
90 creating projects to fund scholarships for student athletes who
91 had exhausted their eligibility and still desired to earn their
92 undergraduate degrees; Khayat developed fellowships to allow
93 student-athletes to have a career in sports administration and
94 also researched and found funding for a major drug education
95 program; following a three-year stint in this landmark NCAA
96 position, he returned to Oxford to teach law once again and served
97 as interim athletic director in the fall of 1994; during this
98 short term, Khayat was the driving force in hiring former athletic

99 director Pete Boone and former head football coach Tommy
100 Tuberville; on July 1, 1995, Khayat was named the University's
101 15th Chancellor; as CEO of Ole Miss, he oversees the Oxford
102 campus, the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson,
103 and degree-granting centers in Southaven and Tupelo; over the
104 years, Khayat has accumulated a wealth of awards and honors;
105 locally, he has served as Oxford-Lafayette County Chamber of
106 Commerce President in 1973-1974 and was named Oxford's Citizen of
107 the Year; he received the Distinguished American Award from the
108 National Football Foundation in 1987 and 1989; Khayat was featured
109 in the 1987-1988 and 1988-1989 NFL yearbooks for achieving success
110 after football and was cited as one of the NFL's best examples of
111 an accomplished scholar-athlete; in 1993, Khayat was inducted into
112 the Ole Miss Athletic Hall of Fame and he was selected to the Ole
113 Miss Team of the Century (1883-1992) as place-kicker; Khayat was
114 honored by the NFL Alumni for his achievements on and off the
115 playing field when he was presented with a prestigious Career
116 Achievement Award in March 1998; his professional memberships are
117 an amazing blend that include the Board of Directors of the United
118 Southern Bank, The Mississippi Bar, the American Bar Association,
119 the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Bar Foundation, the Lamar
120 Order Fundraising Society of the Ole Miss Law School, the American
121 Trial Lawyers Association, and the Mississippi Committee for the
122 Humanities; his leadership positions showcase his dedication to
123 any project he undertakes; he was Chairman of the United Fund of
124 Oxford-Lafayette County First Drive in 1971, the Chairman of the
125 Courthouse Restoration Committee for the Lafayette County
126 Courthouse in 1977, the President of the M-Club Alumni Chapter of
127 Ole Miss from 1970-1971, the Chairman of the Law Center Dedication
128 Committee from 1978-1979, and served as President of the
129 Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Adult Chapter in 1983; his
130 popularity with students is legendary; the Law School Student Body
131 chose him as the 1993-1994 Outstanding Law Professor of the Year
132 and the school's Mississippi Law Journal staff established a
133 scholarship in his name in 1995; he is affiliated with St. Peter's
134 Episcopal Church; Khayat is married to the former Margaret Denton

135 of Memphis, Tennessee; they have two children, Margaret D. Khayat
136 Bratt, and Robert C. Khayat, Jr.; and

137 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
138 outstanding athlete and public official who has brought honor to
139 his university and to the State of Mississippi:

140 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
141 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
142 we do hereby commend and congratulate Chancellor Robert "Bob"
143 Khayat, All-SEC football and baseball player at Ole Miss and NFL
144 football player, upon his induction into the Mississippi Sports
145 Hall of Fame Class of 2000, and wish him and his family continued
146 success in all endeavors.

147 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
148 presented to Chancellor Khayat at induction ceremonies and be made
149 available to the Capitol Press Corps.