

By: Senator(s) Dearing, Carlton, Simmons,
 Furniss, Gordon, Huggins, Posey, Gollott,
 Canon, Burton, Williamson, Carmichael, Hyde-
 Smith, Robertson, Chamberlin, Dawkins, Kirby,
 White (29th), Frazier, Harden, Moffatt, Ross,
 Farris, Tollison, Horhn, Dickerson, Little, Mettetal, Browning, Lee,
 Nunnelee, Hewes

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 511

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING
 2 VERSATILE DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY QUARTERBACK JOSH BRIGHT FOR
 3 LEADING HIS TEAM TO THE NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND
 4 FOR WINNING THE PRESTIGIOUS CONERLY TROPHY.

5 WHEREAS, versatile quarterback Josh Bright of Batesville,
 6 Mississippi, led his Delta State University "Fighting Okra"
 7 football team to the NCAA Division II National Championship,
 8 overcoming the odds to bury Bloomsburg State 63-34 in the
 9 championship game in Florence, Alabama; and

10 WHEREAS, Bright, a Batesville native, has accounted for 2,456
 11 yards and 29 touchdowns in leading Delta State, 14-1, to a share
 12 of the Gulf South Conference championship; and

13 WHEREAS, "Josh has been a tremendous asset to us," Delta
 14 State Coach Steve Campbell said. "He's meant the world to our
 15 team this year. I think his athletic ability and his numbers
 16 speak for themselves. He has tremendous character, and he's been
 17 a leader on and off the field. Josh would be a tremendous
 18 football player at any level. He's got good speed and he's so
 19 strong. Sometimes you think option quarterback and you think of a
 20 small guy, a guy you can grab by the jersey and sling him down.
 21 You're not going to do that to Josh. You'd better hit him head
 22 on"; and

23 WHEREAS, Bright, 6 feet 5, 230 pounds, is the first
 24 quarterback in Mississippi to pass and run for 1,000 yards in a
 25 season since Reggie Collier in 1981; and

26 WHEREAS, Josh Bright is a whiz at running the option, so he
27 knows a thing or two about when to keep the football and when to
28 pitch it; and

29 WHEREAS, Bright got his hands on another piece of valuable
30 hardware - the Fifth Annual Conerly Trophy - presented by NFL Hall
31 of Famer Frank Gifford, and recognizes the Delta State junior
32 quarterback as the best college football player in Mississippi;
33 and

34 WHEREAS, Bright is the first quarterback to win the Conerly
35 Trophy since Ole Miss' Stewart Patridge in 1997. He's also the
36 second Division II player to win the award, joining former Delta
37 State running back Tregnel Thomas, who won the inaugural award in
38 1996; and

39 WHEREAS, "It's been an awesome season." Bright said. "I'd
40 like to thank my teammates - without them I wouldn't be here. I
41 had great players all over the field with me"; and

42 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
43 singular achievement of this student-athlete, who has brought
44 honor to his university, his community and to the State of
45 Mississippi:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
47 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
48 we do hereby commend and congratulate versatile Delta State
49 University Junior Quarterback Josh Bright for leading his team to
50 the NCAA Division II National Championship and for winning the
51 prestigious Conerly Trophy, and wish him continued success in his
52 future athletic and scholastic endeavors.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
54 presented to Josh Bright and Delta State Coach Steve Campbell, and
55 be forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of
56 Higher Learning and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.