

By: Senator(s) Hamilton, Williamson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 558

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ROY
2 OSWALT OF WEIR, MISSISSIPPI, A MEMBER OF THE U.S. OLYMPIC BASEBALL
3 TEAM THAT WON THE GOLD MEDAL AT THE 2000 SUMMER OLYMPICS.

4 WHEREAS, Roy Oswalt, the son of Billy and Jean Oswalt of
5 Weir, Mississippi, was a member of the U.S. Olympic Baseball Team
6 that garnered the gold medal at the 2000 Summer Olympics held in
7 Sydney, Australia; and

8 WHEREAS, through the years Choctaw County has produced its
9 fair share of luminaries, ranging from the gamuts of
10 entertainment, politics and sports; however, there is no doubt
11 that the Town of Weir has done more than its share in contributing
12 its native son, Roy Oswalt, to this large pinnacle in the sporting
13 world; and

14 WHEREAS, previously only collegiate players were allowed to
15 play on the Olympic team, but this year players from the minor
16 leagues qualified to compete; and

17 WHEREAS, Roy is a 1995 graduate of Weir, playing football as
18 well as baseball for the Lions; after two years at Holmes
19 Community College (he was drafted by the Houston Astros as a
20 freshman), he decided to give the pro game a try, even though he
21 was offered a scholarship by Mississippi State University and
22 Louisiana State University; he has been playing for the Astros'
23 farm team in Round Rock which is owned by former Astros and
24 Rangers pitcher, Nolan Ryan; and

25 WHEREAS, at least 1,000 names were in the running to
26 represent the United States in Sydney, and Oswalt's name was
27 selected halfway through the process; and

28 WHEREAS, of the many games the Olympians had to play,
29 including the preliminaries and the elimination games, the best
30 games Oswalt said he played were the semifinal game against Cuba,
31 and the games against Korea and Japan; and

32 WHEREAS, Roy will treasure this one chance to win a gold
33 medal, particularly because he will no longer be eligible to
34 compete since he will be in the major leagues; and

35 WHEREAS, Roy returned to familiar ground and was honored for
36 his efforts before last October's football game between Weir and
37 French Camp, and was asked to speak to elementary students, as
38 well as sign autographs, pennants, baseballs, baseball cards,
39 shirts and greet hometown people he had not seen since before the
40 Olympics; and

41 WHEREAS, he credits his father, who worked with Weir
42 Attendance Center to build a baseball field, for helping him
43 develop and hone his skills as a player; and

44 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
45 singular achievement of this young professional athlete who brings
46 honor to his school, his community and to the State of
47 Mississippi:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
49 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
50 we do hereby commend and congratulate Roy Oswalt of Weir,
51 Mississippi, who was a member of the U.S. Olympic Baseball team
52 that won the gold medal at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney,
53 Australia, and wish him success in his professional career.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
55 presented to Roy Oswalt and his parents, Billy and Jean Oswalt,
56 and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.