

By: Senator(s) Michel, Harden, Horhn,  
Frazier

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 562

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ORSMOND  
2 JORDAN, JR., FROM DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI, WHO LED THE JACKSON MURRAH  
3 MUSTANG BASKETBALL TEAM TO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND NATIONAL  
4 RECOGNITION, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL  
5 OF FAME CLASS OF 2001.

6 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports  
7 Hall of Fame unveiled the Class of 2001 of the Mississippi Sports  
8 Hall of Fame, which features Orsmond E. Jordan, Jr., who hails  
9 from Decatur, Mississippi, and led the Jackson Murrah Mustang  
10 Basketball team to state championships and national recognition,  
11 with induction ceremonies to be held on March 23, 2001; and

12 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record:  
13 championship high school basketball coach who guided teams to over  
14 700 wins and four state championships; Coach Jordan was born in  
15 Decatur, the oldest of two children of Orsmond E. Jordan, Sr., and  
16 the late Earnie Mable Jordan; he began his basketball career at an  
17 early age and attended Alcorn State University, where he was a  
18 star scorer for the Braves from 1952-1956; Orsmond earned three  
19 letters in basketball at Alcorn and was a two-year starter; he  
20 scored 1,124 points during his college career, which was fourth  
21 best in school history at the time of his graduation; Coach Jordan  
22 achieved his Bachelor of Science degree in 1955 as he majored in  
23 General Science; he later received his Master's degree in Guidance  
24 and Counseling from Mississippi College in 1972; his advanced  
25 education includes geology studies at Oklahoma, Western Illinois,  
26 and Idaho State plus a AAA Certification in Driver Safety  
27 Education at University of Southern Mississippi; he began his  
28 35-year coaching career at East Flora in 1955; in 1962, he arrived  
29 at Lanier High School, Jackson, and launched his basketball legacy  
30 in high school hoops; serving as an assistant coach, Orsmond  
31 helped lead the Lanier Bulldogs to two state titles and one  
32 national high school championship in the 1963-1964 season; his  
33 star player at Lanier was Cornell Warner, who later played  
34 professional basketball; in 1967, he moved across town to coach  
35 and teach at Brinkley High School; Coach Jordan promptly worked  
36 his basketball coaching magic once again as Brinkley won a state  
37 crown in the 1968-1969 season; his two key players on the Brinkley  
38 championship teams were Henry Ward and Ricky Berry, who both  
39 played in the pro ranks; Coach Jordan would then make a coaching  
40 career move that would vault his name into high school basketball  
41 prominence; he arrived at Murrah High School in 1970 and made his  
42 name synonymous with the Mustangs and championship basketball;  
43 during his 20 years as head coach of the Murrah Mustangs, Coach  
44 Jordan led his team to three state titles and national fame;

45 Jordan tapped the talent pool of the Jackson area and molded his  
46 players into top quality teams; under his guidance, Murrah became  
47 renowned as a high school basketball power; some of his famed  
48 Mustangs included Ricky Short, Jesse Pate, Kenny O'Bannon, Donnell  
49 Allen, Knovin Hamilton, Ronnie Henderson, Othello Harrington,  
50 James Robinson and Lindsey Hunter; Orsmond's teams distinguished  
51 themselves on a national scale when they won three consecutive  
52 Zizzler Classics in West Plains, Arkansas, a prestigious  
53 tournament; those squads featured stars such as James Robinson,  
54 Lindsey Hunter, Jesse Pate, Ronnie Henderson and Othello  
55 Harrington; one of the highlights of Coach Jordan's Murrah career  
56 was actually a loss in the famed "Dream Game" between Murrah and  
57 Lawrence County, a match-up of the Class 5A and Class 4A  
58 champions; the special game was played on the Jackson State campus  
59 drawing a sellout standing room only crowd and a statewide  
60 television audience; Jordan's influence on young high school  
61 players was a key in developing Mississippi into one of the top  
62 states producing great basketball talent; through his hard work  
63 and dedication, he built a program that brought national publicity  
64 to Mississippi and was able to draw top college programs to the  
65 state to recruit players; he forced other schools in the state to  
66 keep up in developing skills and cranking out winning teams; Coach  
67 Jordan is one of the most decorated coaches in Mississippi high  
68 school history, having been named Coach of the Year at the City,  
69 Metro, Conference and District levels; he was selected Coach of  
70 the Year by the Jackson Clarion Ledger on four occasions; his  
71 sportsmanship awards include a Martin Luther King Sports Award, a  
72 Kiwanis Club honor, a V.F.W. Sports Award, and City of Jackson and  
73 State of Mississippi resolutions, commendations and parades;  
74 Orsmond has appeared and coached in numerous All-Star games and  
75 basketball clinics; in 1983, he spoke to the famed McGregor  
76 Basketball Clinic in Dallas, Texas; he appeared at the Medalist  
77 Basketball Clinic at Palo Alto, California, in 1985 and 1986; he  
78 served as an annual instructor in the B.C. All-Star Camp in  
79 Milledgeville, Georgia, from 1980 through 1991; Coach Jordan  
80 conducted a basketball camp at the University of California in  
81 Irvine in 1990; in 1991, he coached in the celebrated Dapper Dan  
82 Roundball Classic held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Coach Jordan  
83 also coached in the Mississippi High School All-Star basketball  
84 game in 1979 and the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star game in 1992; in  
85 1993, he served as administrative coach in the MS/AL contest;  
86 overall, Coach Jordan concluded his 35-year coaching career with  
87 722 wins and 232 losses; his teams had 14 twenty-win seasons, 4  
88 thirty-win seasons and 1 forty-win season; Orsmond coached 7  
89 All-Americans, 9 All-State players, 5 Players of the Year for  
90 Mississippi, 8 players who entered professional basketball, 8 high  
91 school All-Stars, 3 McDonald All-Stars and 4 Dapper Dan All-Star  
92 players; he retired from coaching and teaching at Murrah in 1993  
93 and became Transportation Manager for Mississippi Action in  
94 Progress; Coach Jordan is no stranger to Hall of Fame memberships,  
95 having been inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches  
96 Hall of Fame in 1991 and he is also a member of the Alcorn Sports  
97 Hall of Fame; additionally, Orsmond was inducted into the Alcorn  
98 Alumni Association Hall of Honor; Coach Jordan is married to  
99 Marion Imogene Clark Jordan, who goes by the nickname of "Gene";  
100 the family is active in the New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson;  
101 the Jordans have two children, Ronald Jordan and Monica Horhn  
102 Grant, and one grandson, Justin Horhn; in a fitting tribute and  
103 appropriate gesture, Ronnie Jordan nominated his father to the  
104 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame while serving as a security guard  
105 at the museum and noticing that there was no picture of his dad as  
106 he was not yet a member; Ronnie submitted Coach Jordan's  
107 nomination to the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Selection  
108 Committee by a letter mailed shortly before Father's Day in 1996;  
109 Ronnie summed up his father's nomination by stating: "He has  
110 truly been a great father and a loving, dedicated family man;

111 without his guidance, wisdom, love and presence, I could have  
112 easily been led astray, that is why I am truly blessed and  
113 thankful to be able to present him to you as a nominee, and also  
114 proud"; and

115 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
116 outstanding athlete who has brought honor to the State of  
117 Mississippi:

118 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
119 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
120 we do hereby commend and congratulate Orsmond E. Jordan, Jr., star  
121 basketball player and coach, upon his induction into the  
122 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2001, and wish him and  
123 his family continued success in all endeavors.

124 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
125 presented to Orsmond Jordan and his family at induction  
126 ceremonies, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.