

By: Senator(s) Michel, Harden

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 563

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING KEN
2 LINDSAY, FAMED JACKSON GOLF PRO, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE
3 MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2001.

4 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports
5 Hall of Fame has unveiled the Class of 2001 of the Mississippi
6 Sports Hall of Fame, which features Ken Lindsay, the famed Jackson
7 golf pro who became the 30th President of the Professional Golf
8 Association (PGA); and

9 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record:
10 internationally renowned Jackson golf pro who rose in the golf
11 world to become President of the PGA; although he had many offers
12 to move to larger country clubs throughout the United States, Ken
13 chose to remain in Mississippi playing professional golf, teaching
14 golf, becoming one of the top golf rules experts in America, and
15 officiating PGA events around the world; Ken hails from Glencoe,
16 Alabama, in the northern part of the state near Gadsden; he
17 attended Glencoe High School where he played quarterback for the
18 football team, a forward on the basketball team, and he spent four
19 years as a medalist among his peers every golf season; his
20 interest in golf began at age 10 when he shagged golf balls on the
21 Gulf Steel Gold Course and generally pestered local golfers into
22 teaching him the game; the late golf veteran, George Black, took
23 Ken under his wings while he was still a student at Glencoe; in
24 1960, Ken won his first state amateur title, a win in the Alabama
25 Junior championship tournament; Lindsey received a golf
26 scholarship from Memphis State University (now known as the
27 University of Memphis) and competed for the Tigers from 1962-1965;
28 Ken played in 15 college matches each year and went undefeated his
29 freshman and senior seasons; during his college days in the Bluff
30 City, Ken's team took on all of the SEC golf powerhouses,
31 including other notable collegiate teams from Houston, Oklahoma
32 State, Missouri, Notre Dame, Ole Miss, Louisiana State University
33 (LSU), Mississippi State and Arkansas; he was selected as team
34 captain after his sophomore season; Ken teamed up with notable
35 Memphis players, such as Will Sowles, Mike Malarkey and John
36 Schlee; Lindsay started out hot for the Tigers, winning 10
37 straight matches in his freshman year and 8 consecutive to start
38 his second year at Memphis; the 18-straight wins shattered a
39 Memphis record held by Hillman Robbins; Ken led the Tiger golf
40 team to a staggering win in the LSU Invitational in Baton Rouge by
41 shooting a one under par 141 to oust the homestanding Tigers and
42 the Alabama Linksters by six strokes; while serving as captain for
43 the Memphis team, Ken participated in the Biloxi based Sunkist
44 Mid-Winter Tournament in 1964 and 1965; a second place finish in
45 1964 to Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame member Mickey Bellande

46 made Ken all the more determined in 1965 as the 21-year old
47 collegiate captain shot a 65 to clinch the victory; Ken frequently
48 played his hometown Gulf Steel Golf Club course and he was an
49 annual participant in the Gadsden Country Club tournament; while
50 playing with his mentor George Black and Dick Schmuck, Lindsay
51 racked up the longest ace ever made on the course when he drilled
52 a 365 yard hole-in-one on the par four 10th hole; it was the third
53 ace for Ken in his early playing days; Lindsay also won the
54 Gadsden Tournament in back-to-back years; Ken had a tendency for
55 slow starts in tournaments, but he had a tremendous late rush and
56 put on show stopping course charges for his match wins; in the
57 1962 GCC tourney, he tore up the Alabama course while battling
58 heavy rains; he holed two eagles to clinch a 9 under par win and a
59 course record 63; during this time period, sportswriters from
60 Memphis and Alabama took great interest in Ken's career; Alabama
61 writer Jimmy Bryan once described Ken as "an unassuming young man
62 who eats, sleeps and lives golf in Gadsden, Alabama, and Memphis,
63 Tennessee"; Lindsay closed out his college career at Memphis State
64 with an incredible 72.6 competitive scoring average and he racked
65 up 40 match wins out of 44 matches played, which also established
66 a school record; incredibly, in four years of collegiate
67 competition, he only lost four individual matches; after
68 graduation in 1966, Ken entered the Air Force as a 2nd lieutenant
69 due to four years service in ROTC at Memphis State; his service
70 career included work on ICBM and Titan Two defense missiles; he
71 was stationed at the Air Force Base at Little Rock, Arkansas,
72 where he continued to hone his golfing skills and knowledge of the
73 game in between military assignments; he competed in military
74 tournaments all across the South and Southwest; Lindsay won
75 back-to-back base titles course; in doing so, he qualified to play
76 in the Strategic Air Command Tournament at Offutt Air Force Base
77 in Nebraska; the wins solidified his position as one of the top
78 armed services golfers in America; the highlight of Ken's military
79 golf accomplishments happened in 1968, when he won the 1968 World
80 Wide Air Force Championship held at Lackland Air Force Base course
81 in San Antonio, Texas; this tournament included every golfer in
82 the Air Force world wide and Ken had to win on a weekly basis in a
83 grueling elimination format; to capture the title, he shot an
84 eight under par 280 in the four-day championship event; in 1969,
85 Ken won the first state public links tournament in Arkansas at the
86 Riverdale Golf Course in Little Rock; he fired a 68 after his
87 traditional slow start; after posting a 75 on the first 18 holes
88 of play, he charged back on the second 18 with a three under par
89 68 and a 36 hole total of 143; the Air Force Champion shaved 7
90 strokes on the final 18 holes despite landing two shots into water
91 hazards and taking a pair of bogies in the early round; overall,
92 during Ken's military career, he won 10 military tournaments;
93 after serving his country from 1966 to January 1970, Ken received
94 his honorable discharge and was bombarded with offers to become a
95 club pro and to play on the PGA tour; this was a pivotal time in
96 Ken's life, one that would shape his golfing career in remarkable
97 ways; many followers, sponsors, friends and family literally urged
98 him to join the PGA and he received several lucrative four-year
99 sponsorship offers; he had a standing offer for one sponsorship
100 from a Memphis doctor and the money offers were three times the
101 earnings he could make as a club pro; Ken, however, had a goal to
102 be the best club pro in PGA ranks which did not include playing on
103 the tour; making headlines in Mississippi and Alabama, in 1970,
104 Ken began his golf pro career as an assistant golf pro under
105 Norman Bryant, the dean of Mississippi club pros at Colonial
106 Country Club in Jackson; Lindsay wanted to learn from one of the
107 best and Bryant fit the bill; his decision to become an apprentice
108 to Bryant at Colonial and play in the professional ranks placed
109 Ken on a path that would eventually put him into the PGA
110 hierarchy; Ken soon settled in at Colonial as he played
111 professional tournaments, taught golf and became a top flight

112 rules expert; in 1972, just two years after joining the PGA
113 apprentice program, Ken was named Mississippi Apprentice of the
114 Year; one year later in 1973, he earned his national PGA
115 membership; in 1974, Ken was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the
116 Mississippi Chapter of the Gulf States PGA Section and stayed
117 sharp in professional competition; he captured the Gulf States
118 Championship with a 7 under par and began a streak of being named
119 Mississippi PGA Player of the Year from 1974 to 1979; he was named
120 Mississippi Player of the Year five times in a seven-year span;
121 just five years after spurning PGA tour offers to work with Norman
122 Bryant, Ken was named head professional at Colonial in 1975;
123 combining his course skills with a command of talents as a golf
124 pro, Lindsay served as President of the Mississippi Chapter of the
125 Gulf States Section PGA in 1975 and 1976; in 1978, he once again
126 was victorious in the Mississippi PGA Championship at the Laurel
127 Country Club; he repeated the feat at Meridian's Northwood Country
128 Club in 1979 by shooting a 73 for a 142 final on a tightly laid
129 out course; Lindsay served as section secretary for the PGA from
130 1979-1980 and achieved the position of section president in
131 1981-1982; Ken had served on the Board of Directors of the Section
132 since 1974; during this time period, Ken kept amazing his fans,
133 family and friends with feats on the golf course; he shot a
134 sizzling 63 on his home course at Colonial and mastered those
135 links by shooting in the 60's often; he was under par at Colonial
136 for an amazing 10 consecutive rounds of golf; Lindsay shattered
137 two course records in MPGA events, including a 63 at the Canton
138 Country Club and a 64 at the Jackson Country Club; he managed to
139 shoot a course record 63 at his old Alabama stomping grounds at
140 the Gulf Steel course near Gadsden; in 1980, Ken began his first
141 tour of duty as a PGA rules official when he worked at a
142 Rochester, New York, PGA event; he was soon named to the 25-man
143 PGA Rules Committee and in the same year, Ken worked the famed
144 World Series of Golf at the Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio;
145 Lindsay had passed the test of fire by a golf official in 1979
146 when he made all of the crucial rulings on the 11th hole at a PGA
147 tournament played at Oakland Hills in Birmingham, Michigan; Ken
148 learned all of the nuances concerning crowd control and TV
149 coverage at the hole, which drew 22,000 spectators; he dealt with
150 many situations when PGA pros fired five irons into the greens,
151 the gallery and against TV equipment; he soon became a rules
152 official workhorse as he appeared at all of the well known PGA
153 tour events including the PGA Championship, the World Series of
154 Golf, the Players Tournament of Champions, the Club Pro
155 Championship, the PGA Seniors and the ultimate in 1992, the
156 Masters at Augusta, Georgia; Ken worked the courses feverishly and
157 became a familiar figure to stars such as Jack Nicklaus, Lee
158 Trevino and Tom Watson; Lindsay would spend as much as two months
159 away from his family while racking up over 200,000 miles of travel
160 annually for the PGA; he once disqualified Lee Trevino, who had
161 mistakenly signed his scorecard wrong; Trevino took the snafu in
162 stride and responded by saying "I'm more of a champion dummy than
163 I am a champion golfer!"; in one tournament, Ken faced tremendous
164 pressure as he had to place a ball for Jack Nicklaus three times
165 before 14,000 spectators around the hole; his most famous ruling
166 in a PGA event happened at the World Series of Golf when a Tom
167 Watson shot stopped cold in a rut caused by a TV truck; Watson
168 wanted to chip out, but the rut was blocking his efforts; Lindsay
169 granted Watson relief from the rut and allowed him a drop, citing
170 the rule for "unusual damage" to the course; Larry Nelson, who was
171 leading the tournament at the time, protested Ken's ruling, but
172 Ken's ruling stood; Watson later missed a putt on the hole which
173 made Lindsay's ruling a moot point; the same year he worked his
174 first Masters in 1992, Ken was invited for a homecoming event at
175 the Gulf Steel Course where he learned the game in North Alabama;
176 his 1961 Glencoe Golf team was reassembled in Gadsden by Gulf
177 Steel pro Joe Stone for a weekend of fellowship and golf; though

178 his teacher and mentor, George Black, had passed away, Ken
179 reunited with former teammates Larry Parker, Arnold Walker, Dan
180 Cosby and Coach R.G. Johnson; in typical Lindsay fashion, Ken put
181 on a clinic in the morning, played 9 holes and swapped golf
182 stories with memories of George Black; Ken told a local reporter
183 that the purpose of the reunion was to "go back from where I was
184 hunting golf balls for them to today, when I'm waving to them on
185 TV!"; finally, in 1983, after being a PGA member for 10 years,
186 serving as a rules official, attending 6 PGA schools, and having
187 written a 20,000-word thesis entitled "The Putting Green Rule,"
188 Ken earned a Master Professional classification by the PGA; he was
189 also honored in his milestone year as the Golf Professional of the
190 Year by the PGA; Lindsay was also presented in 1987 with the
191 esteemed National Horton Smith Golf Award, which placed Ken in an
192 elite group of only four persons in the United States to receive
193 these two particular awards; Ken rose through the PGA ranks like a
194 meteor after his landmark year of 1983 as he became a powerful and
195 influential figure in the golf world; he was one of the PGA's most
196 active leaders and earned respect from all aspects of the golfing
197 world with his work ethic and professionalism; in 1984, Lindsay
198 was named Chairman of the National PGA Rules Committee, the
199 beginning of seven years of service to the committee; at various
200 times, Ken also served on the Membership, Communications and
201 Public Awareness Committees of the organization; Ken was also a
202 member of the nine-person Rules of Golf Board for the United
203 States Golf Association for seven years; Ken's dedication to the
204 PGA made him a national golf figure and he also became an
205 international golf ambassador; he has officiated at many British
206 Opens, European tournaments and several Ryder Cup Matches; Lindsay
207 has officiated at all four of the PGA's major tourneys: the
208 Masters, the U.S. Open, the PGA Championship and the British Open;
209 in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Ken achieved new heights in the
210 golf world by being selected to the PGA's Board of Directors in
211 1989; Lindsay was also named General Manager of Colonial Country
212 Club in the same year; he served on the board until 1991, when he
213 was elected secretary in 1992, and was also named Director of Golf
214 at Colonial; he served as PGA secretary until 1994, when he was
215 chosen as vice president; ultimately, in 1996, Ken Lindsay was
216 elected to be the 30th President of the PGA, golf's greatest
217 organization with over 23,000 members; as President of the PGA,
218 Ken truly distinguished himself and was an active advocate for his
219 sport; he presented the winners' checks and trophies to champions
220 on 11 different occasions; with his term as PGA president
221 completed, Ken continues to make an impact with the world's most
222 famous golf group; he still officiates PGA events and worked the
223 1999 U.S. Open at Pinehurst, North Carolina; Lindsay stays on the
224 road to work PGA events across the United States and global
225 boundaries; in 1995, he appeared on the cover of the *PGA Executive
226 Golfer* and was honored as being one of the World's Greatest Golf
227 Professionals; his loyalty to Colonial Country Club in Jackson is
228 deep and he remains close to his rooted Mississippi and Alabama
229 ties; Ken is recognized everywhere golf is played in the world as
230 a man of honor and integrity; Lindsay has written numerous
231 national articles on golf and he is a keen golf expert; he is
232 currently the General Manager and Master Golf Professional of
233 Colonial in Jackson and Deerfield Country Club in Madison; for
234 over 30 years, Ken has been a champion for junior golf and he
235 conducts over a dozen junior golf clinics and summer camps every
236 year; Ken directs many charity tournaments at Colonial and
237 Deerfield, including a short list of tourneys for Cystic Fibrosis,
238 St. Richard's, Make-A-Wish, Multiple Sclerosis and many others;
239 Lindsay helps raise anywhere from \$75,000 to \$100,000 each year
240 for charity; despite his busy schedule in the golf world, Ken is a
241 humanitarian of the highest order; Lindsay has a friend whose wife
242 is incapacitated due to a severe stroke; Ken takes the time to
243 personally visit with his friend several evenings a week;

244 enshrinement into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame is the third
245 Hall of Fame membership for Ken; he was a 1981 inductee into the
246 University of Memphis Sports Hall of Fame and he became a member
247 of the Gadsden, Alabama, Sports Hall of Fame in 1992; at the time
248 of Ken's induction into the Memphis Hall of Fame, he was only the
249 fourth golfer to be selected as a member of the Tiger shrine along
250 with Hillman Robbins, Lou Graham and Mason Rudolph; Ken's
251 nomination to the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame was accompanied
252 by letters of recommendation from a Who's Who in Professional
253 Golf, including Jack Nicklaus, Gene Sarazen, Tiger Woods, Sir
254 Michael Bonallack of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St.
255 Andrews (the British Open), Buzz Taylor of the USGA, Commissioner
256 Timothy Finchem of the PGA and former U.S. President George Bush;
257 in addition to the lofty honors mentioned, Ken was notified by
258 Jack Nicklaus that he and former President Bush were elected to
259 the Muirhead, Ohio, Golf Clubs' Captain's Club Award, an award for
260 supporting charities, and was inducted into this outstanding club
261 in 2000; Ken is married to the former Janet Taggweiler of Fort
262 Myers, Florida, and has one son, David Michael Lindsay; and

263 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
264 outstanding athlete, whose high profile national image in the
265 wonderful sport of golf has brought honor to his community and to
266 the State of Mississippi:

267 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
268 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
269 we do hereby commend and congratulate Ken Lindsay, famed Jackson
270 golf professional, upon his induction into the Mississippi Sports
271 Hall of Fame Class of 2001, and wish him and his family continued
272 success in all his future endeavors.

273 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
274 presented to Ken Lindsay at induction ceremonies to be held on
275 March 23, 2001, in Jackson, and be made available to the Capitol
276 Press Corps.