

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

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 564

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING LARRY  
2 MYRICKS, ALL-AMERICAN TRACK & FIELD STAR AT MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE  
3 AND OLYMPIC MEDALIST, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI  
4 SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2001.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports  
6 Hall of Fame unveiled the Class of 2001 of the Mississippi Sports  
7 Hall of Fame, which features Larry Myricks, who hailed from  
8 Jackson and was an All-American track and field star at  
9 Mississippi College and an Olympic medalist in the long jump; and

10 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record: one of  
11 Mississippi's greatest track and field stars who was an Olympic  
12 long jump medalist, Larry was born in Clinton, but raised in  
13 Jackson and was a star athlete at Forest Hill High School; after  
14 graduating from high school, Myricks attended nearby Mississippi  
15 College where he was coached by Joe Walker, who is now the track  
16 coach at Ole Miss; he was a four-year letterman in track for the  
17 Choctaws and was named All-Gulf Conference his entire college  
18 career; Larry led the Mississippi College track team in scoring  
19 for four years and he was named Most Valuable and permanent track  
20 and field captain; Myricks was a four-time All-American at  
21 Mississippi College; Larry won numerous track meets throughout the  
22 state, south and nation during competition in the long jump, 100  
23 meters, 200 meters and various relay teams; he became a world  
24 class long jumper; his college days on the Choctaw track team were  
25 truly remarkable; he broke Gulf South Conference (GSC) records in  
26 the 100 meter, 200 meter and long jump events; he was a member of  
27 the 400 meter and 1600 meter relay teams that broke the GSC  
28 records; when he left Mississippi College, he held the school  
29 records for the 100 meter, 200 meter and long jump, plus he was a  
30 member of record-setting relay teams in the 400 meter, 1600 meter  
31 and spring medley; during this active athletic period, Larry  
32 maintained a 2.75 GPA; in 1975, Larry won the AAU long jump  
33 championship and became rated as the top junior in the world; he  
34 won the United States/Soviet Union junior meet in the long jump  
35 with a leap of 25'6-3/4"; one of Larry's finest years was in 1976;  
36 he once again was AAU champion in the long jump, won the United  
37 States/Soviet Union meet in Leningrad in the long jump and  
38 finished third in the NCAA indoor long jump competition; Myricks  
39 had the 6th best ever indoor jump for an American in the long jump  
40 with a leap of 26'6-3/4"; the jump was the 10th best in the world;  
41 he took the NCAA Division 2 championship with a leap of 25'10",

42 and then captured the NCAA Division 1 title in the long jump with  
43 a leap of 26'1-1/2"; Larry finished 2nd in the U.S. Olympic trials  
44 with a jump of 27'1-1/4"; this was the first time a person had  
45 jumped over 27 feet and not won the Olympic trials; his leap  
46 placed him solidly on the U.S. team to compete in the 1976  
47 Olympics in Montreal, but misfortune struck in the preliminaries  
48 as Larry fractured his foot during warm-ups; the bad break knocked  
49 Larry out of the 1977 track season; Larry's athletic  
50 accomplishments attracted recruiters from larger schools; despite  
51 being wooed by other schools, Larry stayed loyal to Mississippi  
52 College; John Williams, who was athletic director during Larry's  
53 Mississippi College days, summed up Myricks' commitment to his  
54 school: "He has taken personal pride in representing Mississippi  
55 College, his home state of Mississippi, and the Gulf South  
56 Conference in every meet he has ever participated in and this has  
57 been a credit to him, the school, the state and the conference;  
58 national recognition has not gone to his head as it does with many  
59 athletes who win the type of honors Myricks has accumulated; he  
60 has been very humble through it all and very thankful to the  
61 college for the opportunities it has given him to take part in  
62 national championship; he has been an active recruiter for  
63 Mississippi College and the coaching staff has leaned on him to  
64 boost the morale of other athletes when such was needed"; Myricks  
65 came back in a big way in the 1978 track season; besides the Gulf  
66 South crown, he won the Tom Black Classic and was poised to strike  
67 in the NCAA meets; he became NCAA Division 2 long jump champion  
68 for a second time by leaping 25'11"; incredibly, Larry didn't stop  
69 with the long jump title, as he won the NCAA Division 2  
70 championship in the 200 meter race with a time of 20.44 seconds;  
71 Larry's time broke "Bullet" Bob Hayes' 14-year-old record and it  
72 was the 10th best time in the world that year; he tied for second  
73 place in the NCAA Division 1 long jump with a leap of 26'5"; when  
74 1978 was over, Larry was 11th best in the world in the long jump  
75 and third best in legal collegiate jump with the 26'5" mark; due  
76 to Larry's superb talents as a long jumper and sprinter,  
77 Mississippi College finished 4th nationally in NCAA Division 2 and  
78 11th in 1979; Larry's senior season at Mississippi College was a  
79 memorable one; he won the AAU indoor title with a long jump of  
80 26'2"; Myricks then took his third NCAA Division 2 championship in  
81 the long jump with a leap of 26'9-3/4"; he also won the NCAA  
82 Division 2 crown in the 200 meters with a time of 21.05; Larry  
83 then took the NCAA Division 1 long jump championship with a leap  
84 of 26'7-1/4"; this feat marked the second time in Myricks' career  
85 that he won both the Division 1 and Division 2 crowns in the same  
86 year; Larry then won the AAU Track and Field Championship long  
87 jump with a wind-aided leap of 27'2"; he also had a new stadium  
88 record jump of 26'11-1/2" in the same competition; Myricks then  
89 returned to the scene of his Olympic disaster at Montreal for the  
90 World Cup Games; he made amends by making one of his finest jumps  
91 to win the World Cup long jump competition, the second best long  
92 jump in history at 27'11-1/2"; the winning leap prompted Sam Bell,  
93 the U.S. Coach at the World Cup, to call Myricks "the best long  
94 jumper in the world today!" Larry graduated from Mississippi  
95 College in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Business  
96 Administration degree from the School of Business and Public  
97 Administration; off the track, Larry had distinguished himself at  
98 his alma mater; he had served as Treasurer of the Track Club, a  
99 member of the "M" Club, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and

100 the Baptist Student Union; he was elected by his fellow students  
101 as President of the Black Student Association at the school; Coach  
102 Joe Walker summed up Larry's Choctaw track days: "There never has  
103 been a more cooperative athlete at Mississippi College; he was  
104 never one to complain and his success on the national level did  
105 much to assist him in developing a cooperative spirit among other  
106 members of the team; at no time was discipline a problem with  
107 Myricks; he knew the real meaning of the word and this is what has  
108 helped develop him into the world class athlete that he is today";  
109 Larry remained active as an amateur after graduation and made the  
110 1980, 1984 and 1988 U.S. Olympic Track and Field teams that  
111 competed in the Olympics; he made the 1980 team with ease, winning  
112 the long jump in the U.S. Olympic trials, but the Moscow Olympics  
113 were boycotted due to the hostage crisis in Iran; in 1984, he  
114 competed in the Los Angeles games, but he barely missed out on a  
115 medal, finishing fourth in the long jump; his hard work and  
116 dedication paid off in 1988, as Larry won the Bronze medal in the  
117 long jump at the Seoul, Korea, Olympic games; Myricks leaped  
118 27'-1" to snare the bronze, a highlight of Larry's track & field  
119 career; at a summer track meet in Berlin, Germany, prior to the  
120 1988 Olympics in Korea, Larry was honored with the esteemed Jesse  
121 Owens Award for his track and field accomplishments; in 1989,  
122 Larry was inducted into the Mississippi College Athletic Hall of  
123 Fame; Larry's community and charitable contributions are lengthy  
124 and notable; he has appeared to speak at Kiwanis Clubs; the Hinds  
125 Junior College Fellowship of Christian Athletes events; high  
126 school assemblies at Utica, Chastain Junior High, Enochs Junior  
127 High plus many other schools; an Olympics Awareness Session at  
128 Mississippi College; Baptist Student Union and many other similar  
129 sporting events; he was a volunteer at the Crippled Children's  
130 Hospital and assisted with Special Olympic track and cross country  
131 meets in the Jackson area; he is faithful in attendance and  
132 participation at all of his church activities; Larry was a member  
133 and vice president of the Usher Board at Second Temple Church of  
134 Christ Holiness, a singer in the New Travelers Inspirational  
135 Choir, a member of the Gospel Truth Singers and a member of the  
136 Cynthia Church of Christ Holiness; Larry was recently selected as  
137 the 32nd Best Athlete in the 50 Greatest Sports Figures from  
138 Mississippi as listed by *Sports Illustrated* in the magazine's  
139 century-ending issue; he is the 37th MSHOF inductee to be honored  
140 by the magazine's elite list of top athletes from all 50 states;  
141 Myricks currently resides in Glendale, California, and is a  
142 recruiter for DeVry Institute of Technology; he is married to the  
143 former Arnita Epps of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and they have two  
144 daughters, LaKeesha and Brittany; and

145 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
146 outstanding athlete who has brought honor to his university and to  
147 the State of Mississippi:

148 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
149 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
150 we do hereby commend and congratulate Larry Myricks, All-American  
151 track and field star at Mississippi College and Olympic medalist

152 upon his induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class  
153 of 2001, and wish him and his family continued success in all  
154 their future endeavors.

155 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
156 presented to Larry Myricks at induction ceremonies to be held on  
157 March 23, 2001, in Jackson, Mississippi, and be made available to  
158 the Capitol Press Corps.