HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 29

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING TERRELL BUCKLEY ON HIS SUPER BOWL APPEARANCE WITH THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS AND RECOGNIZING MARCH 16, 2002, AS TERRELL BUCKLEY DAY IN THE CITY OF PASCAGOULA.

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2002, Pascagoula native, Terrell Buckley, who appeared in Super Bowl XXXVI on February 3, 2002, with the New England Patriots, will be recognized in the City of Pascagoula by this day being set aside in honor of his remarkable accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, born June 7, 1971, to Eddie and Laura Buckley in Pascagoula, Terrell exhibited, from an early age, the potential to be a dynamic athlete; and

WHEREAS, Terrell, receiving his formal education in the public school system of Jackson County, Mississippi, established a notable reputation throughout his school years; and

WHEREAS, being rated as the nation's top defensive back as a senior in high school, Terrell was the only player to earn first-team All-State honors as both a junior and senior, setting a school record with 30 interceptions, seven of which he returned for touchdowns, and averaging 30 yards per punt return with seven touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating from high school in 1989, Terrell, a distant cousin of Walter Payton, attended Florida State University, majoring in theater and earning a minor in political science; and

WHEREAS, continuing to set records and make history, Terrell was a two-year starter and three-year letterman at FSU, leaving in 1991 as the school's all-time leader in interceptions with 21, and
interception returns for 501 yards, which set a National College
Athletic Association record; and

WHEREAS, Terrell tied the FSU record for touchdowns of
interception returns and punt returns, leading the nation as
defensive back with 12 interceptions for 238 yards and two
touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, enshrined into the College Football Hall of Fame for
his outstanding performance, Terrell received numerous honors,
including: the 1991 Jim Thorpe Award, presented annually to the
nation’s top defensive back; his being named the 1991 Consensus
All-American; and the Associated Press second-team All-American
for 1990; and

WHEREAS, Terrell began his professional football career after
being the fifth pick in the 1992 NFL Draft by the Green Bay
Packers, where he remained for three seasons, adorned with the
recognizable Number 27 jersey, before being signed as a free agent
to the Miami Dolphins in 1995; and

WHEREAS, before being signed as a veteran free agent with the
New England Patriots in 2001, Terrell also contributed his talents
to the Denver Broncos during the 2000 season; and

WHEREAS, Terrell, having contributed to several key plays in
2001 that led to New England’s 11-5 overall record, which landed
them a spot in the AFC Playoffs and ultimately the NFL Super Bowl,
is now experiencing the joy that only comes with a Super Bowl
victory of 20-17 over the St. Louis Rams; and

WHEREAS, in striving diligently to obtain each athletic
accolade that has made him a distinctive professional football
player, Terrell has been supported by his family: wife, Denise;
daughters, Sherrell, Brianna and Brettney; parents, Eddie and
Laura Buckley; sister, Jennifer; and a host of other relatives,
friends and fans; and

WHEREAS, Terrell, who also enjoys golfing, baseball and
basketball, currently resides in Plantation, Florida, where he has
fervently contributed his time and service to the local Broward County Boys and Girls Club and participated in events benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Habitat For Humanity, "Feed the Children" Campaign and his own charitable endeavor, the "T-Buck Foundation"; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives of the State of Mississippi to recognize and commend distinguished Mississippians such as Terrell Buckley, who, through his highly successful career as a professional football player and Super Bowl Champion, has brought national recognition and great pride to his family and the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Terrell Buckley on his Super Bowl appearance with the 2002 NFL Super Bowl Champions, the New England Patriots, and recognize March 16, 2002, as "Terrell Buckley Day" in the City of Pascagoula.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to Terrell Buckley, Eddie and Laura Buckley, and the members of the Capitol Press Corps.