

By: Senator(s) Burton, Carmichael, Michel,
Dearing, Jackson, Johnson (19th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 569
(As Adopted by the Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CIVIC AND CHARITABLE
2 DEDICATION OF MISSISSIPPI BASEBALL STAR JAY POWELL.

3 WHEREAS, James Willard (Jay) Powell, who with his wife
4 Candace, son Wyatt and daughter McKenzie, makes his home in
5 Madison, Mississippi, is presently a star relief pitcher with the
6 Texas Rangers organization, whose community outreach has taken him
7 beyond the stadium to where citizens and fans live and work
8 through his association with civic and charitable organizations;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record: he was a
11 1990 graduate of West Lauderdale High School, where he was a
12 two-time All-State selection, earning four letters for baseball,
13 three for football and one in basketball; he led the team in
14 hitting two years with .439 and .486 averages; he led the team in
15 pitching two years with records of 13-2 and 14-2; he was
16 All-Conference four years; was MVP in Lauderdale County; was MVP
17 on the West Lauderdale team for three consecutive years; was MVP
18 in the Sam Dale Conference two consecutive years; was a member of
19 the Mississippi High School All-Star Team; was a member of the
20 1990 Junior Pan American Team at the championships in Cuba; was a
21 member of the 1991 Team USA squad; was All-County four years; was
22 All-State two years; holds two pitching records for season and
23 four for career; holds four hitting records for season and five
24 for career; was chosen Player of the Year in Mississippi; was
25 drafted by the San Diego Padres in the 11th round; had his high
26 school jersey (No. 6) retired on October 28, 1995; he attended
27 Mississippi State University where he made 67 appearances and 11



28 starts; is one of only three Bulldogs in school history picked in
29 the first round and to have played in the Major Leagues (the other
30 two are Will Clark and Rafael Palmeiro); set a school record with
31 ten saves as a freshman and was named to the All-Freshman Team in
32 1991; was All-South Region; was All-SEC; was Freshman All-American
33 in 1992; was rated pre-season number 5 closer in the nation by
34 Baseball America in 1993; was All-SEC West; was drafted number 1
35 by the Baltimore Orioles and signed with that organization; in
36 1994 was traded to the Florida Marlins; in 1995 was AA Eastern
37 League All-Star; was Minor League Pitcher of the Year in 1995 in
38 the Florida Marlins Organization; made his Major League debut on
39 September 10, 1995, with the Florida Marlins and finished the
40 season with a 1.08 ERA; and he is presently with the Texas Rangers
41 organization as a pitcher; and

42 WHEREAS, his real work is off the field, where he has been
43 involved in many civic and charitable organizations, including:
44 (a) the Sunshine Kids in Houston, Texas; (b) Make-A-Wish
45 Foundation; (c) many crisis centers dealing with mostly women,
46 children and rape victims; (d) the Women's Center in Houston,
47 Texas; (e) Hope Village for Children in Meridian, Mississippi; (f)
48 Daily Bread Food Bank in Miami, Florida; (g) drug and alcohol
49 rehabilitation programs; (h) Ducks Unlimited; and (i) many school
50 visits to talk to children; and

51 WHEREAS, Jay has visited many hospitals (mostly children's
52 hospitals) in the following cities: Miami, Florida; Ft.
53 Lauderdale, Florida; Denver, Colorado; Houston, Texas; and
54 Cleveland, Ohio. These visits to children's hospitals touch our
55 hearts the most; Jay and Candace both go to hospitals, where Jay
56 is a very loving, empathetic and caring man. Children have a very
57 unique "position" in his "Baseball Heart." Through baseball,
58 Jay's life is graced with many chances to meet a lot of special
59 children and parents; and



60 WHEREAS, Jay's baseball camps in Meridian, Mississippi, have
61 allowed Jay to contribute to numerous charities and organizations,
62 including: (a) the Boy's and Girl's Club; (b) the Wheelin'
63 Sportsman; (c) American Red Cross; (d) Hope Village for Children
64 (Sela Ward); (e) individual sick children from the Meridian area;
65 and (f) Rush Hospital in Meridian, Mississippi; and

66 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
67 on-the-field and off-the-field accomplishments of this Mississippi
68 professional athlete, who has brought honor to his school, his
69 university, his community and to the State of Mississippi:

70 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
71 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
72 we do hereby commend the civic and charitable dedication and
73 activities of Mississippi professional baseball star Jay Powell,
74 and wish him and his family continued success in his professional
75 career and in his life after baseball.

76 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
77 presented to Jay Powell and his family and be made available to
78 the Capitol Press Corps.

