

By: Senator(s) Michel, Browning, Butler,  
Carmichael, Chamberlin, Clarke, Dearing,  
Frazier, Gordon, Harden, Jackson (15th),  
Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd), Little,  
Posey, Robertson, Thames

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 572

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING JOHNIE  
2 COOKS, EXCELLENT ALL-AMERICAN MISSISSIPPI STATE AND NATIONAL  
3 FOOTBALL LEAGUE LINEBACKER, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE  
4 MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL OF FAME, CLASS OF 2004.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports  
6 Hall of Fame has unveiled the Class of 2004 of the Mississippi  
7 Sports Hall of Fame, which features Johnie Cooks, excellent  
8 All-American Mississippi State University linebacker and National  
9 Football League linebacker with the Baltimore Colts; and

10 WHEREAS, a three-sport letterman for Leland High School,  
11 Johnie Cooks lettered four years at Mississippi State University  
12 from 1977 through 1981, including a redshirt injury season in  
13 1979; and

14 WHEREAS, named Second Team All-Southeastern Conference by the  
15 Associated Press as a Sophomore in 1978, he helped the Mississippi  
16 State Bulldogs to achieve the school's first ever back-to-back  
17 bowl appearances in 1980 and 1981, and was instrumental in one of  
18 the biggest upsets in Mississippi State University history as  
19 State defeated Bear Bryant's No. 1 rated Alabama Crimson Tide 6-3  
20 at Jackson, Mississippi, in a famed 1981 contest; and

21 WHEREAS, Johnie recorded 376 tackles, 241 of which were  
22 unassisted, during his college career; was named "Most Valuable  
23 Player" on defense in State's 10-0 win over Kansas in the Hall of  
24 Fame Bowl played in Birmingham, Alabama; was three-time  
25 All-Southeastern Conference player and named First Team  
26 All-American by the Associated Press, Football News, Football  
27 Writers Association of America, Sporting News, NEA and Hartford

28 Insurance; played in the 1982 Olympia Gold Bowl in San Diego,  
29 California, and the Hula Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii; and

30 WHEREAS, he was a first round draft choice, second player  
31 picked overall in the 1982 National Football League draft by the  
32 Baltimore Colts, the highest draft choice by any Mississippi State  
33 University Bulldog in school history; and

34 WHEREAS, he played 10 seasons in the National Football League  
35 with the Baltimore Colts, New York Giants and Cleveland Browns,  
36 and developed into a pass-rushing specialist and made the National  
37 Football League All-Rookie Team in 1982; he was a member of the  
38 1990 New York Giants team that won the National Football League  
39 title in a 20-19 thriller against the Buffalo Bills in Super Bowl  
40 XXV at Tampa, Florida, and returned to Starkville, Mississippi, to  
41 work for the Mississippi State University Athletic Department  
42 after he completed his professional football career; and

43 WHEREAS, he was enshrined into the Mississippi State  
44 University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991 and was selected as a  
45 Southeastern Conference Living Legend in 1999; and

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

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
50 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
51 we do hereby commend and congratulate Johnie Cooks, excellent  
52 All-American Mississippi State University linebacker and National  
53 Football League linebacker with the Baltimore Colts, upon his  
54 induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, Class of 2004,  
55 and wish him and his family continued success in all their future  
56 endeavors.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
58 Johnie Cooks at induction ceremonies and be made available to the  
59 Capitol Press Corps.