

By: Representatives Fillingane, Aldridge,  
Bentz, Davis, Dedeaux, Holland, Lane, Lott,  
Peranich, Read, Rogers (61st), Scott,  
Simpson, Smith (59th), Upshaw, Walley,  
Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 116

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING LUKE  
2 JOHNSON OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI FOOTBALL TEAM  
3 FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ATHLETIC AND ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THE  
4 GOLDEN EAGLES AND FOR HIS EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE.

5 WHEREAS, Luke Johnson, the outstanding punter for the  
6 University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles Football Team,  
7 was first in Conference USA in average punting yards per game  
8 during the 2005 season, and ranked seventh in the nation in  
9 average punting yards per game; and

10 WHEREAS, for his superior accomplishments on the gridiron  
11 this season, Luke was named to the first team All-Conference Team  
12 and he earned All-American honors with his selection as third team  
13 All-American by SI.com and as honorable mention All-American by  
14 CollegeFootballNews.com; and

15 WHEREAS, Luke is not only an athlete but also a scholar, and  
16 he has been named to the President's List, Conference USA  
17 Commissioner's Honor Roll and Dean's List in his academic career,  
18 and he has already earned his bachelor's degree in business  
19 administration; and

20 WHEREAS, Luke has been awarded the Conference USA  
21 Commissioner's Medal for Academic Excellence several times, was  
22 named the SportsCare Scholar Athlete for football in 2003 and  
23 2004, was the recipient of the Liberty Bowl Scholar Athlete Award  
24 in the 2003 Liberty Bowl, and was selected to attend the Seventh  
25 Annual NCAA Leadership Conference in 2003; and

26 WHEREAS, Luke, who is an ordained minister, is heavily  
27 involved in community service and is dedicated to the USM  
28 Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Baptist Student Union and to

29 his ministry opportunities not only in the Hattiesburg area but  
30 also in other areas of the state and the world, and he was  
31 selected to the American Football Coaches Association's Good Works  
32 Team for his outstanding work in the community; and

33 WHEREAS, Luke was named a finalist for the Danny Wuerffel  
34 Trophy and the ARA Sportsmanship Award and was named the Division  
35 I male recipient of the Woody Hayes Award, all of which are  
36 awarded to the top players in the nation based on academic,  
37 athletic and community service; and

38 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this  
39 outstanding student athlete who is an inspiration to other  
40 athletes and who has brought honor to his community, his  
41 university and the State of Mississippi:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
43 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
44 THEREIN, That we commend and congratulate Luke Johnson of the  
45 University of Southern Mississippi Football Team for his  
46 outstanding athletic and academic accomplishments for the Golden  
47 Eagles and for his exemplary community service, and we extend our  
48 best wishes for success in all future endeavors.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
50 furnished to Luke Johnson and to members of the Capitol Press  
51 Corps.