

By: Senator(s) Harkins

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

1 A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
2 SPECTACULAR FIRST BASEMAN BRENT ROOKER FOR WINNING THE 2017 C
3 SPIRE FERRISS TROPHY, AS THE FIRST BULLDOG NAMED SEC PLAYER OF THE
4 YEAR, FIRST TEAM ALL-AMERICAN BASEBALL AMERICA PLAYER OF YEAR AND
5 FIRST SEC PLAYER TO SET TRIPLE CROWN STATISTICAL RECORDS.

6 WHEREAS, on May 22, 2017, Mississippi State University
7 "Bulldog" slugger First Baseman Brent Rooker was named the
8 recipient of the 2017 C Spire Ferriss Trophy as the best college
9 player in the Magnolia State, and later became the first Bulldog
10 to ever be named SEC Player of the Year, in addition to being
11 named First Team All-SEC. Rooker thanked God, his family, his
12 coaches and teammates in his acceptance speech for the Ferriss
13 Trophy at the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum; and

14 WHEREAS, less than 24 hours removed from being named a USA
15 Baseball Golden Spikes Award Semifinalist, Brent Rooker was named
16 a National Player of the Year and First Team All-American by
17 *Collegiate Baseball Newspaper*; and

18 WHEREAS, Rooker's season has been one of the best in
19 Mississippi State baseball history. Rafael Palmeiro was the last



20 player to capture the SEC Triple Crown. The former big-leaguer
21 with more than 3,020 career hits and 569 home runs pulled off the
22 rare feat in 1984 while playing at Mississippi State. Now, 33
23 years later, another Mississippi State slugger has joined Palmeiro
24 in the exclusive club. The Germantown, Tennessee, native led the
25 conference in homers (20+), RBIs (73) and batting average (.415)
26 entering SEC Tournament action. He also led the SEC in slugging,
27 on-base percentage, doubles (30+), hits and total bases; and

28 WHEREAS, Brent Rooker's 2017 Honors include:

- 29 • SEC Player of the Year;
- 30 • Collegiate Baseball National Player of the Year;
- 31 • Collegiate Baseball First Team All-American;
- 32 • First Team All-SEC;
- 33 • Ferriss Trophy Winner (Best Amateur Baseball Player in the
34 State of Mississippi);
- 35 • Golden Spikes Award Semifinalist;
- 36 • Dick Howser Trophy Semifinalist;
- 37 • SEC Player of the Week - February 27, April 3 & April 10;
- 38 • National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA)
39 National Hitter of the Week - February 28 & April 11;
- 40 • NCBWA Player of the Month (March);
- 41 • National Player of the Week - Feb. 27 & April 10;
- 42 • Perfect Game/Rawlings Player of the Week - April 11; and

43 WHEREAS, Brent Rooker is doing things in the SEC that haven't
44 been done in this league in a very long time or ever," MSU Coach



45 Andy Cannizaro said. "It is just a testament to the baseball we
46 have in the State of Mississippi this year," Southern Miss Coach
47 Scott Berry said. "Brent has had an outstanding season. He is
48 very deserving of the honors"; and

49 WHEREAS, the redshirt Junior First Baseman might look back at
50 Super Bulldog Weekend as his signature performance. He hit three
51 homers, including a grand slam, and went 4 for 4 with six RBIs in
52 a 10-6 win over Kentucky. Rooker started the season batting
53 cleanup but moved up because he was getting pitched around.
54 Rooker, who has six multi-homer games in his career, became the
55 first Mississippi State player to hit three in a game since 2010.
56 The feat was enhanced because it happened on Super Bulldog
57 Weekend, the annual three-day extravaganza when all the spring
58 sports teams play at home and the spring football game is held;
59 and

60 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
61 Mississippi university athlete who has brought great honor to his
62 university, his community and to the State of Mississippi:

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
64 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby congratulate Mississippi State
65 University First Baseman Brent Rooker for winning the 2017 C Spire
66 Ferriss Trophy, as the First Bulldog named SEC Player of the Year,
67 First Team All-American Baseball America Player of the Year and
68 First SEC Player to set triple crown statistical records, and we



69 extend our best wishes to Brent and his "Bulldog" family on this
70 high honor.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
72 Brent Rooker, Coach Andy Cannizaro and Mississippi State
73 University President Mark E. Keenum, forwarded to the Board of
74 Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, and made
75 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

