

By: Representatives Straughter, Banks,
Clark, Hines, Johnson (94th), Paden

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SALUTING MISSISSIPPI'S NATIVE SON AND
2 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE'S DEFENSIVE TACKLE EXTRAORDINAIRE,
3 FLETCHER COX, UPON A SUCCESSFUL SEASON WITH THE PHILADELPHIA
4 EAGLES AND BECOMING A SUPER BOWL LII CHAMPION.

5 WHEREAS, from a modest upbringing in Jonestown, a close-knit
6 community within the peripheral boundaries of Yazoo City,
7 Mississippi, to Davis Wade Stadium in the center of Starkville's
8 Mississippi State University campus where his domineering presence
9 on the gridiron launched him into the national spotlight as the
10 12th overall selection in the 2012 NFL Draft, and landing him in
11 the "city of brotherly love," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as a
12 member of the National Football Conference's Philadelphia Eagles
13 franchise, the road to Fletcher Cox's success has not always been
14 golden laid, but it has been destined for greatness with true
15 grit, perseverance, discipline and determination to overcome every
16 obstacle placed before him to soar on an eagle's wings; and

17 WHEREAS, a powerful and disruptive force standing at 6'4" and
18 topping the scale at an unflinching 310 pounds, Fletcher, whose
19 initial sports endeavors centered around basketball and track as a



20 high schooler, eventually took to the astroturf after convincing
21 his zealously protective mother that his golden ticket out of
22 Yazoo City was having the pigskin in his hand, a conversation that
23 he undoubtedly revisits on occasion after having established
24 himself as one of the league's best defensive players, garnering
25 three second-team All-Pro selections in 2014, 2015 and 2017, and
26 three Pro Bowl selections in 2016, 2017 and 2018; and

27 WHEREAS, for any American gladiator on the 100-yard plane
28 quest for greatness, the pinnacle of excellence lies in the
29 ability to capture the coveted Vince Lombardi Trophy, but for
30 Fletcher Cox that quest began by accumulating a total of 207
31 tackles and 21 quarterback sacks, a touchdown return, three
32 interceptions, a fumble recovery during his junior and senior
33 years of high school, 114 total collegiate tackles at MSU,
34 first-team All-SEC honors and five field goal attempt blocks,
35 which ignited a flame for the continual pursuit of excellence as
36 an Eagles' standout by starting in 87 of the 93 games played,
37 amassing 34 career sacks, 286 solo tackles, 107 assisted tackles,
38 12 passes defended, seven forced fumbles, nine fumble recoveries
39 and two touchdowns during his six-year career with the Eagles; and

40 WHEREAS, a proverbial human locomotive, "Bug Eye," as he is
41 most often referred to by his family, closest friends and
42 teammates, anchored the Eagles' defensive line as the Eagles rose
43 above the relentless persistence of their formidable opponents and
44 five-time Super Bowl winners, the New England Patriots, in an



45 astounding 41-33 win to capture the team's first-ever Super Bowl
46 Championship in franchise history since the NFL-AFL merger in
47 1970, to add to the team's three previous NFL Championships in
48 1948, 1949 and 1960; and

49 WHEREAS, Fletcher joins 20 fellow Mississippi State alums in
50 the Super Bowl Club who have won Super Bowl Championship rings,
51 and he becomes only the second Yazoo City native to win the
52 league's highest award, joining the elite club of champion status
53 with fellow Yazooan, former Oakland Raiders' cornerback and
54 three-time Super Bowl Champion Willie Brown; and

55 WHEREAS, Mr. Cox continues to reside in Mississippi, during
56 the off-season, reinvesting his time and resources into the
57 community he will forever call home, annually hosting The
58 Fletcher Cox Football Camp - Powered by USA Football
59 FUNdamentals on the campus of his high school alma mater, Yazoo
60 City High School, among many other philanthropic endeavors in
61 which his benevolence shines brightly; and

62 WHEREAS, spending his down time enjoying the great
63 outdoors, hunting or fishing, in the shop repairing old cars or
64 on the track with his drag racing team competing in events
65 around the country, Mr. Cox credits much of his success and
66 discipline to the guidance and examples set by his late oldest
67 brother, Shaddrick, high school guidance counselor, Christie
68 Cater, and his late high school position coach, Kyle Wallace,



69 each of whom, besides his mother, Melissa Cox, played a critical
70 role in inspiring him to strive for his life's dreams; and

71 WHEREAS, February 4, 2018, will be marked in the annals of
72 sports and Mississippi history, as one of the country's great
73 defensive linemen ever to take the field and one of
74 Mississippi's most notable sport's icon, in the display of
75 athletic prowess and refined skills of execution exhibited by
76 Fletcher Cox and the entire Philadelphia Eagles squad; and

77 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to join the
78 fans of professional football in recognizing a football star who
79 has never forgotten his home state and has brought honor to Yazoo
80 City High School, Mississippi State University and to the State of
81 Mississippi:

82 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
83 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
84 THEREIN, That we do hereby salute Mississippi's native son and
85 National Football League's defensive tackle extraordinaire,
86 Fletcher Cox, upon a successful season with the Philadelphia
87 Eagles and becoming a Super Bowl LII Champion, and extend best
88 wishes for continued future success in all of his future
89 endeavors.

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
91 presented to Fletcher Cox, forwarded to the President of
92 Mississippi State University, the Principal of Yazoo City High
93 School, and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

