

By: Senator(s) Horhn, Barnett, Dearing,  
Frazier, Jackson (11th), Jackson (32nd),  
Norwood, Simmons (12th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 573

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CAREER, SUCCESS AND  
2 CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF MR. VERNON PERRY AS PRESIDENT OF THE  
3 MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS'  
4 ASSOCIATION.

5 WHEREAS, athlete par excellence and community servant  
6 extraordinaire are just a few of the adjectives that are akin to  
7 the likes of Vernon Perry, former member of the Houston Oilers and  
8 New Orleans Saints, and current President of the Mississippi  
9 Chapter of the National Football League Players' Association; and

10 WHEREAS, a lifelong native of Jackson, Mississippi, and a  
11 Wingfield High School graduate, Perry's unmitigated athleticism  
12 paved the yellow brick road to success as a standout strong safety  
13 for Jackson State University, and eventually professionally in  
14 both the Canadian Football League (CFL) and the National Football  
15 League (NFL); and

16 WHEREAS, Perry, who played one season with the Montreal  
17 Alouettes of the CFL from 1977-1978, and five seasons in the NFL  
18 beginning with the Houston Oilers from 1979-1982 and the New  
19 Orleans Saints during the 1983 season, has taken the act of



20 kindness shown in giving back to the community and transformed it  
21 into an art of generosity and call to action; and

22 WHEREAS, best known for his stellar performances with the  
23 Oilers in the 1979 American Football Conference (AFC) Playoffs  
24 against the San Diego Chargers when he blocked a field goal and  
25 returned it 57 yards before being tackled by the holder to set a  
26 NFL postseason record by intercepting four passes from Chargers'  
27 Quarterback Dan Fouts, and intercepted a Terry Bradshaw pass and  
28 returned it 75 yards for a touchdown on Pittsburgh's first  
29 possession of the game in the AFC Championship, Perry continued to  
30 exude that star power locally through his affiliation with the  
31 Jackson Chapter of the National Football League Players'  
32 Association; and

33 WHEREAS, with a focus on giving back to the underprivileged  
34 and less fortunate, Mr. Perry championed the Association's annual  
35 Celebrity Bike Giveaway in 2014, which seeks to provide new  
36 bicycles to needy and deserving kids during the Christmas season,  
37 and has enlisted the help of other former players, including Glen  
38 Collins, Rodney A. Phillips, Noland Smith, Willie Richardson,  
39 Ollie Smith, Leon Seals, Jeffery Moore, Mike Jones, Frank Sutton  
40 and Jerome Jennings, among others; and

41 WHEREAS, the annual events have become a collaborative effort  
42 between the association and its newfound supporting affiliates  
43 such as: Walmart, which has assembled and delivered the bicycles  
44 to Smith-Wills Stadium; the Mississippi Department of



45 Rehabilitation Services, which has provided helmets to recipients  
46 of bicycles; the Army Reserve 365th Combat Sustainment Battalion;  
47 and numerous school coaches in the area; and

48 WHEREAS, while his career in the professional football arena  
49 may have been abbreviated, Perry's notable presence in Jackson and  
50 throughout Mississippi is indelibly etched in the minds of those  
51 who have benefited from his generous benevolence through his  
52 community involvement, teaching at Jackson State University, as  
53 well as through his business "32 Sports," a sportswear and sports  
54 memorabilia retail store; and

55 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the civic  
56 energy and charitable contributions displayed by true ambassadors  
57 of this state:

58 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
59 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
60 we do hereby recognize the career, success and civic contributions  
61 of Mr. Vernon Perry as President of the Mississippi Chapter of the  
62 National Football League Players' Association, and extend best  
63 wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
65 Mr. Vernon Perry and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

