

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Barrett, DeLano, Berry, Blackwell, Branning, Carter, Chassaniol, DeBar, England, Fillingane, Harkins, Hill, Hopson, Johnson, McCaughn, McMahan, Michel, Parker, Polk, Rhodes, Robinson, Seymour, Sparks, Whaley, Williams, Younger, Chism, McLendon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 509

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE RECOGNITION OF THE  
2 MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO UNITED STATES SENATOR CINDY HYDE-SMITH  
3 AS THE FIRST WOMAN ELECTED TO REPRESENT THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
4 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

5 WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith is the first woman  
6 elected to represent Mississippi in Washington, D.C. She won a  
7 six-year term in November 2020, following her April 2018  
8 appointment to fill the U.S. Senate seat vacated by long-time U.S.  
9 Senator Thad Cochran and subsequent November 2018 special election  
10 victory to complete his term; and

11 WHEREAS, in the 118th Congress, Hyde-Smith serves on the  
12 Senate Committee on Appropriations, Committee on Agriculture,  
13 Nutrition and Forestry, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,  
14 and Committee on Rules and Administration; and

15 WHEREAS, as Senator, Hyde-Smith has been active and  
16 successful in the legislative process to improve the overall  
17 quality of life for all Mississippians, using her committee  
18 assignments to support policies and legislation to benefit the  
19 state and nation; and



20           WHEREAS, in her role on the powerful Senate Appropriations  
21 Committee, Hyde-Smith has used her subcommittee positions and  
22 influence to benefit Mississippi and its economy in a variety of  
23 ways whether it involves shipbuilding on the Gulf Coast,  
24 Mississippi's strong defense and aerospace sectors, agriculture,  
25 rural broadband and rural health, infrastructure, or other  
26 priority issues. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee,  
27 Hyde-Smith was influential in the crafting and passage of the 2018  
28 Farm Bill, which included provisions she authored pertaining to  
29 rural economic development, better crop insurance for flood-prone  
30 regions, Chronic Wasting Disease research, and forest health.  
31 Hyde-Smith has established herself as a leader in support for  
32 rural healthcare, helping to secure funding to support rural  
33 hospitals and resources to expand telehealth for Medicare  
34 beneficiaries; and

35           WHEREAS, prior to becoming a U.S. Senator for Mississippi,  
36 Hyde-Smith served as the Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture  
37 and Commerce, elected in 2011 and reelected in 2015. Highlights  
38 of her tenure were her efforts to reopen foreign markets for  
39 American beef exports, advocating for country-of-origin food  
40 labeling, and ensuring that imported catfish meets USDA food  
41 safety standards. Under her leadership, the department was  
42 recognized as a "model agency" for effectiveness and budget  
43 control; and



44 WHEREAS, before leading the Mississippi Department of  
45 Agriculture and Commerce, Hyde-Smith served 12 years in the  
46 Mississippi State Senate, including eight years as Chairman of the  
47 Agriculture Committee. As a Legislator, Hyde-Smith championed  
48 policies to promote and protect all facets of the agriculture  
49 industry. She fought to protect private property rights,  
50 supported tort reform, and earned respect for her advocacy of  
51 conservative budget and pro-business initiatives; and

52 WHEREAS, as a prominent U.S. Senator, Hyde-Smith has received  
53 the Award for Conservative Achievement from the American  
54 Conservative Union Foundation, the Spirit of Enterprise Award from  
55 the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Champion of Small Business -  
56 National Federation of Independent Business. Among other  
57 commendations, the National Rural Health Association presented  
58 Senator Hyde-Smith with its Rural Health Champion Award, and she  
59 received National Legislator of the Year honors from the  
60 Mississippi Rural Health Association, the Agriculture Legislator  
61 of the Year Award from the Mississippi Association of Conservation  
62 Districts, the Ambassador Award from the Mississippi Farm Bureau  
63 Federation, the Achievement Award from Delta Council, and the  
64 Outstanding Service to Small Farmers Award from Alcorn State  
65 University; and

66 WHEREAS, Hyde-Smith is a graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Community  
67 College and The University of Southern Mississippi. Hyde-Smith  
68 and her husband, Mike, have a daughter, Anna-Michael. They reside



69 in Brookhaven and are active members of Macedonia Baptist Church.  
70 A fifth-generation farming family, the Senator's family raises  
71 beef cattle and are partners in a local stockyard auction market  
72 in Brookhaven; and

73 WHEREAS, just over a century ago, the first woman was elected  
74 to the United States Congress, and now there are 151 women serving  
75 in both chambers of Congress as of this month. More women holding  
76 elected office is significant not only in that it brings Congress  
77 closer to accurately representing the American population, it also  
78 expands the collective imagination about what power can and should  
79 look like, and we recognize the historic significance of the  
80 election of an effective Mississippi Senator who has brought honor  
81 to the State of Mississippi:

82 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
83 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
84 we do hereby extend the recognition of the Mississippi Legislature  
85 to United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith as the first woman  
86 elected to represent the State of Mississippi in Washington, D.C.,  
87 and offer our congratulations on this auspicious event.

88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
89 United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, forwarded to the United  
90 States Senate, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

