

By: Senator(s) Jackson, Johnson, Hickman, Thomas, Butler, Simmons (13th), Brumfield, Turner-Ford, Jordan, Barnett, Rhodes, Norwood, Blount, England, Berry, Hill, Frazier, Simmons (12th), Sparks, Ladner, McCaughn, McMahan

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 49

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SIX PLAYERS AND COACHES WITH
2 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI CONNECTIONS AT SUPER BOWL LVIII BETWEEN THE
3 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS AND THE SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS.

4 WHEREAS, when the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers
5 met in Super Bowl LVIII on February 11, 2024, in Las Vegas, the
6 teams' roster had five players and a coach from the State of
7 Mississippi; and

8 WHEREAS, all-pro defensive lineman for the Chiefs, Chris
9 Jones, and all-pro cornerback for the 49ers, Charvarius Ward,
10 highlighted the athletes representing the Magnolia State on the
11 world's biggest football stage; and

12 WHEREAS, former Mississippi State star Chris Jones has spent
13 the 2023 season tormenting offensive lines for Kansas City. The
14 defensive tackle registered 10.5 sacks this season. He is joined
15 on the Chiefs by Willie Gay, Jr., who played for the Mississippi
16 State Bulldogs. Gay, who missed the AFC Championship Game due to
17 an injury, had 58 tackles, three fumble recoveries and an
18 interception this season; and



19 WHEREAS, Chris Jones, a Houston, Mississippi, native;
20 linebacker Willie Gay, Jr., a Starkville, Mississippi, native; and
21 linebacker Darius Harris, a Horn Lake, Mississippi, native all
22 played in a second-straight Super Bowl victory with Kansas City;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Charvarius Ward, a McComb, Mississippi, native, and
25 Darrel Luter, Jr., a Hattiesburg, Mississippi, native, played for
26 the 49ers. Ward has also played in his second Super Bowl triumph,
27 having received a ring as a member of the Chiefs team that won the
28 Super Bowl in 2019. Ward later moved on to Hinds Community
29 College and Middle Tennessee State. He has had an outstanding
30 season for the 49ers, with five interceptions, doubling his
31 previous career total. Luter, a rookie, was is in his first Super
32 Bowl in just his first year in the league. He played at the
33 junior college level for Pearl River before moving on to South
34 Alabama. He's played in seven games as a rookie this season; and

35 WHEREAS, the Chiefs' roster also includes Horn Lake player
36 Darius Harris. The linebacker, who played his college football at
37 Middle Tennessee State, has appeared in five games this season;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, in 2023, Todd Pinkston was hired as the running
40 backs coach for the Kansas City Chiefs. Pinkston became a Super
41 Bowl Champion when the Chiefs defeated the San Francisco 49ers
42 25-22 in Super Bowl LVIII. At The University of Southern
43 Mississippi, Todd Pinkston graduated as the school's second



44 all-time leading receiver with 149 catches for 2,366 yards and 22
45 touchdowns, including 48 receptions for 977 yards and 11
46 touchdowns as a senior. He was inducted into the Southern Miss
47 Sports Hall of Fame in 2011, and was inducted into the Scott
48 County Sports Hall of Fame in his hometown of Forest, Mississippi,
49 in 2015; and

50 WHEREAS, former Mississippi State baseball player Brad
51 Freeman has been an NFL referee since 2014, and he was selected as
52 part of the Super Bowl LVIII crew. The Oxford native served as
53 the back judge in the final and most important game of the
54 2023-2024 season. Mississippians continue to make their mark on
55 NFL history, especially when it comes to officiating; and

56 WHEREAS, Mississippi has a legacy of professional football
57 excellence, and it is with great pride that we commend these stars
58 who well-represented Mississippi at Super Bowl LVIII. We join
59 their families, former communities and schools in commending these
60 professionals who have brought honor to the State of Mississippi:

61 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
62 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby recognize the six players and
63 coaches with State of Mississippi connections at Super Bowl LVIII
64 between the Kansas City Chiefs and the San Francisco 49ers, and
65 extend the best wishes of the Mississippi Senate for future
66 success.

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
68 these six Super Bowl stars and their families, forwarded to the



69 athletic directors of their alma maters and the Board of Trustees
70 of State Institutions of Higher Learning, and be made available to
71 the Capitol Press Corps.

