

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.

