

By: Senator(s) Michel, Harden, Horhn,
Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 562

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ORSMOND
2 JORDAN, JR., FROM DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI, WHO LED THE JACKSON MURRAH
3 MUSTANG BASKETBALL TEAM TO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND NATIONAL
4 RECOGNITION, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL
5 OF FAME CLASS OF 2001.

6 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports
7 Hall of Fame unveiled the Class of 2001 of the Mississippi Sports
8 Hall of Fame, which features Orsmond E. Jordan, Jr., who hails
9 from Decatur, Mississippi, and led the Jackson Murrah Mustang
10 Basketball team to state championships and national recognition,
11 with induction ceremonies to be held on March 23, 2001; and

12 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record:
13 championship high school basketball coach who guided teams to over
14 700 wins and four state championships; Coach Jordan was born in
15 Decatur, the oldest of two children of Orsmond E. Jordan, Sr., and
16 the late Earnie Mable Jordan; he began his basketball career at an
17 early age and attended Alcorn State University, where he was a
18 star scorer for the Braves from 1952-1956; Orsmond earned three
19 letters in basketball at Alcorn and was a two-year starter; he
20 scored 1,124 points during his college career, which was fourth
21 best in school history at the time of his graduation; Coach Jordan
22 achieved his Bachelor of Science degree in 1955 as he majored in
23 General Science; he later received his Master's degree in Guidance
24 and Counseling from Mississippi College in 1972; his advanced
25 education includes geology studies at Oklahoma, Western Illinois,
26 and Idaho State plus a AAA Certification in Driver Safety
27 Education at University of Southern Mississippi; he began his
28 35-year coaching career at East Flora in 1955; in 1962, he arrived
29 at Lanier High School, Jackson, and launched his basketball legacy
30 in high school hoops; serving as an assistant coach, Orsmond
31 helped lead the Lanier Bulldogs to two state titles and one
32 national high school championship in the 1963-1964 season; his
33 star player at Lanier was Cornell Warner, who later played
34 professional basketball; in 1967, he moved across town to coach
35 and teach at Brinkley High School; Coach Jordan promptly worked
36 his basketball coaching magic once again as Brinkley won a state
37 crown in the 1968-1969 season; his two key players on the Brinkley
38 championship teams were Henry Ward and Ricky Berry, who both
39 played in the pro ranks; Coach Jordan would then make a coaching
40 career move that would vault his name into high school basketball
41 prominence; he arrived at Murrah High School in 1970 and made his
42 name synonymous with the Mustangs and championship basketball;
43 during his 20 years as head coach of the Murrah Mustangs, Coach
44 Jordan led his team to three state titles and national fame;

45 Jordan tapped the talent pool of the Jackson area and molded his
46 players into top quality teams; under his guidance, Murrah became
47 renowned as a high school basketball power; some of his famed
48 Mustangs included Ricky Short, Jesse Pate, Kenny O'Bannon, Donnell
49 Allen, Knovin Hamilton, Ronnie Henderson, Othello Harrington,
50 James Robinson and Lindsey Hunter; Orsmond's teams distinguished
51 themselves on a national scale when they won three consecutive
52 Zizzler Classics in West Plains, Arkansas, a prestigious
53 tournament; those squads featured stars such as James Robinson,
54 Lindsey Hunter, Jesse Pate, Ronnie Henderson and Othello
55 Harrington; one of the highlights of Coach Jordan's Murrah career
56 was actually a loss in the famed "Dream Game" between Murrah and
57 Lawrence County, a match-up of the Class 5A and Class 4A
58 champions; the special game was played on the Jackson State campus
59 drawing a sellout standing room only crowd and a statewide
60 television audience; Jordan's influence on young high school
61 players was a key in developing Mississippi into one of the top
62 states producing great basketball talent; through his hard work
63 and dedication, he built a program that brought national publicity
64 to Mississippi and was able to draw top college programs to the
65 state to recruit players; he forced other schools in the state to
66 keep up in developing skills and cranking out winning teams; Coach
67 Jordan is one of the most decorated coaches in Mississippi high
68 school history, having been named Coach of the Year at the City,
69 Metro, Conference and District levels; he was selected Coach of
70 the Year by the Jackson Clarion Ledger on four occasions; his
71 sportsmanship awards include a Martin Luther King Sports Award, a
72 Kiwanis Club honor, a V.F.W. Sports Award, and City of Jackson and
73 State of Mississippi resolutions, commendations and parades;
74 Orsmond has appeared and coached in numerous All-Star games and
75 basketball clinics; in 1983, he spoke to the famed McGregor
76 Basketball Clinic in Dallas, Texas; he appeared at the Medalist
77 Basketball Clinic at Palo Alto, California, in 1985 and 1986; he
78 served as an annual instructor in the B.C. All-Star Camp in
79 Milledgeville, Georgia, from 1980 through 1991; Coach Jordan
80 conducted a basketball camp at the University of California in
81 Irvine in 1990; in 1991, he coached in the celebrated Dapper Dan
82 Roundball Classic held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Coach Jordan
83 also coached in the Mississippi High School All-Star basketball
84 game in 1979 and the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star game in 1992; in
85 1993, he served as administrative coach in the MS/AL contest;
86 overall, Coach Jordan concluded his 35-year coaching career with
87 722 wins and 232 losses; his teams had 14 twenty-win seasons, 4
88 thirty-win seasons and 1 forty-win season; Orsmond coached 7
89 All-Americans, 9 All-State players, 5 Players of the Year for
90 Mississippi, 8 players who entered professional basketball, 8 high
91 school All-Stars, 3 McDonald All-Stars and 4 Dapper Dan All-Star
92 players; he retired from coaching and teaching at Murrah in 1993
93 and became Transportation Manager for Mississippi Action in
94 Progress; Coach Jordan is no stranger to Hall of Fame memberships,
95 having been inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches
96 Hall of Fame in 1991 and he is also a member of the Alcorn Sports
97 Hall of Fame; additionally, Orsmond was inducted into the Alcorn
98 Alumni Association Hall of Honor; Coach Jordan is married to
99 Marion Imogene Clark Jordan, who goes by the nickname of "Gene";
100 the family is active in the New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson;
101 the Jordans have two children, Ronald Jordan and Monica Horhn
102 Grant, and one grandson, Justin Horhn; in a fitting tribute and
103 appropriate gesture, Ronnie Jordan nominated his father to the
104 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame while serving as a security guard
105 at the museum and noticing that there was no picture of his dad as
106 he was not yet a member; Ronnie submitted Coach Jordan's
107 nomination to the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Selection
108 Committee by a letter mailed shortly before Father's Day in 1996;
109 Ronnie summed up his father's nomination by stating: "He has
110 truly been a great father and a loving, dedicated family man;

111 without his guidance, wisdom, love and presence, I could have
112 easily been led astray, that is why I am truly blessed and
113 thankful to be able to present him to you as a nominee, and also
114 proud"; and

115 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
116 outstanding athlete who has brought honor to the State of
117 Mississippi:

118 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
119 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
120 we do hereby commend and congratulate Orsmond E. Jordan, Jr., star
121 basketball player and coach, upon his induction into the
122 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2001, and wish him and
123 his family continued success in all endeavors.

124 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
125 presented to Orsmond Jordan and his family at induction
126 ceremonies, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.