

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

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 564

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING LARRY
2 MYRICKS, ALL-AMERICAN TRACK & FIELD STAR AT MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE
3 AND OLYMPIC MEDALIST, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI
4 SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2001.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports
6 Hall of Fame unveiled the Class of 2001 of the Mississippi Sports
7 Hall of Fame, which features Larry Myricks, who hailed from
8 Jackson and was an All-American track and field star at
9 Mississippi College and an Olympic medalist in the long jump; and

10 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record: one of
11 Mississippi's greatest track and field stars who was an Olympic
12 long jump medalist, Larry was born in Clinton, but raised in
13 Jackson and was a star athlete at Forest Hill High School; after
14 graduating from high school, Myricks attended nearby Mississippi
15 College where he was coached by Joe Walker, who is now the track
16 coach at Ole Miss; he was a four-year letterman in track for the
17 Choctaws and was named All-Gulf Conference his entire college
18 career; Larry led the Mississippi College track team in scoring
19 for four years and he was named Most Valuable and permanent track
20 and field captain; Myricks was a four-time All-American at
21 Mississippi College; Larry won numerous track meets throughout the
22 state, south and nation during competition in the long jump, 100
23 meters, 200 meters and various relay teams; he became a world
24 class long jumper; his college days on the Choctaw track team were
25 truly remarkable; he broke Gulf South Conference (GSC) records in
26 the 100 meter, 200 meter and long jump events; he was a member of
27 the 400 meter and 1600 meter relay teams that broke the GSC
28 records; when he left Mississippi College, he held the school
29 records for the 100 meter, 200 meter and long jump, plus he was a
30 member of record-setting relay teams in the 400 meter, 1600 meter
31 and spring medley; during this active athletic period, Larry
32 maintained a 2.75 GPA; in 1975, Larry won the AAU long jump
33 championship and became rated as the top junior in the world; he
34 won the United States/Soviet Union junior meet in the long jump
35 with a leap of 25'6-3/4"; one of Larry's finest years was in 1976;
36 he once again was AAU champion in the long jump, won the United
37 States/Soviet Union meet in Leningrad in the long jump and
38 finished third in the NCAA indoor long jump competition; Myricks
39 had the 6th best ever indoor jump for an American in the long jump
40 with a leap of 26'6-3/4"; the jump was the 10th best in the world;
41 he took the NCAA Division 2 championship with a leap of 25'10",

42 and then captured the NCAA Division 1 title in the long jump with
43 a leap of 26'1-1/2"; Larry finished 2nd in the U.S. Olympic trials
44 with a jump of 27'1-1/4"; this was the first time a person had
45 jumped over 27 feet and not won the Olympic trials; his leap
46 placed him solidly on the U.S. team to compete in the 1976
47 Olympics in Montreal, but misfortune struck in the preliminaries
48 as Larry fractured his foot during warm-ups; the bad break knocked
49 Larry out of the 1977 track season; Larry's athletic
50 accomplishments attracted recruiters from larger schools; despite
51 being wooed by other schools, Larry stayed loyal to Mississippi
52 College; John Williams, who was athletic director during Larry's
53 Mississippi College days, summed up Myricks' commitment to his
54 school: "He has taken personal pride in representing Mississippi
55 College, his home state of Mississippi, and the Gulf South
56 Conference in every meet he has ever participated in and this has
57 been a credit to him, the school, the state and the conference;
58 national recognition has not gone to his head as it does with many
59 athletes who win the type of honors Myricks has accumulated; he
60 has been very humble through it all and very thankful to the
61 college for the opportunities it has given him to take part in
62 national championship; he has been an active recruiter for
63 Mississippi College and the coaching staff has leaned on him to
64 boost the morale of other athletes when such was needed"; Myricks
65 came back in a big way in the 1978 track season; besides the Gulf
66 South crown, he won the Tom Black Classic and was poised to strike
67 in the NCAA meets; he became NCAA Division 2 long jump champion
68 for a second time by leaping 25'11"; incredibly, Larry didn't stop
69 with the long jump title, as he won the NCAA Division 2
70 championship in the 200 meter race with a time of 20.44 seconds;
71 Larry's time broke "Bullet" Bob Hayes' 14-year-old record and it
72 was the 10th best time in the world that year; he tied for second
73 place in the NCAA Division 1 long jump with a leap of 26'5"; when
74 1978 was over, Larry was 11th best in the world in the long jump
75 and third best in legal collegiate jump with the 26'5" mark; due
76 to Larry's superb talents as a long jumper and sprinter,
77 Mississippi College finished 4th nationally in NCAA Division 2 and
78 11th in 1979; Larry's senior season at Mississippi College was a
79 memorable one; he won the AAU indoor title with a long jump of
80 26'2"; Myricks then took his third NCAA Division 2 championship in
81 the long jump with a leap of 26'9-3/4"; he also won the NCAA
82 Division 2 crown in the 200 meters with a time of 21.05; Larry
83 then took the NCAA Division 1 long jump championship with a leap
84 of 26'7-1/4"; this feat marked the second time in Myricks' career
85 that he won both the Division 1 and Division 2 crowns in the same
86 year; Larry then won the AAU Track and Field Championship long
87 jump with a wind-aided leap of 27'2"; he also had a new stadium
88 record jump of 26'11-1/2" in the same competition; Myricks then
89 returned to the scene of his Olympic disaster at Montreal for the
90 World Cup Games; he made amends by making one of his finest jumps
91 to win the World Cup long jump competition, the second best long
92 jump in history at 27'11-1/2"; the winning leap prompted Sam Bell,
93 the U.S. Coach at the World Cup, to call Myricks "the best long
94 jumper in the world today!" Larry graduated from Mississippi
95 College in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science in Business
96 Administration degree from the School of Business and Public
97 Administration; off the track, Larry had distinguished himself at
98 his alma mater; he had served as Treasurer of the Track Club, a
99 member of the "M" Club, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and

100 the Baptist Student Union; he was elected by his fellow students
101 as President of the Black Student Association at the school; Coach
102 Joe Walker summed up Larry's Choctaw track days: "There never has
103 been a more cooperative athlete at Mississippi College; he was
104 never one to complain and his success on the national level did
105 much to assist him in developing a cooperative spirit among other
106 members of the team; at no time was discipline a problem with
107 Myricks; he knew the real meaning of the word and this is what has
108 helped develop him into the world class athlete that he is today";
109 Larry remained active as an amateur after graduation and made the
110 1980, 1984 and 1988 U.S. Olympic Track and Field teams that
111 competed in the Olympics; he made the 1980 team with ease, winning
112 the long jump in the U.S. Olympic trials, but the Moscow Olympics
113 were boycotted due to the hostage crisis in Iran; in 1984, he
114 competed in the Los Angeles games, but he barely missed out on a
115 medal, finishing fourth in the long jump; his hard work and
116 dedication paid off in 1988, as Larry won the Bronze medal in the
117 long jump at the Seoul, Korea, Olympic games; Myricks leaped
118 27'-1" to snare the bronze, a highlight of Larry's track & field
119 career; at a summer track meet in Berlin, Germany, prior to the
120 1988 Olympics in Korea, Larry was honored with the esteemed Jesse
121 Owens Award for his track and field accomplishments; in 1989,
122 Larry was inducted into the Mississippi College Athletic Hall of
123 Fame; Larry's community and charitable contributions are lengthy
124 and notable; he has appeared to speak at Kiwanis Clubs; the Hinds
125 Junior College Fellowship of Christian Athletes events; high
126 school assemblies at Utica, Chastain Junior High, Enochs Junior
127 High plus many other schools; an Olympics Awareness Session at
128 Mississippi College; Baptist Student Union and many other similar
129 sporting events; he was a volunteer at the Crippled Children's
130 Hospital and assisted with Special Olympic track and cross country
131 meets in the Jackson area; he is faithful in attendance and
132 participation at all of his church activities; Larry was a member
133 and vice president of the Usher Board at Second Temple Church of
134 Christ Holiness, a singer in the New Travelers Inspirational
135 Choir, a member of the Gospel Truth Singers and a member of the
136 Cynthia Church of Christ Holiness; Larry was recently selected as
137 the 32nd Best Athlete in the 50 Greatest Sports Figures from
138 Mississippi as listed by *Sports Illustrated* in the magazine's
139 century-ending issue; he is the 37th MSHOF inductee to be honored
140 by the magazine's elite list of top athletes from all 50 states;
141 Myricks currently resides in Glendale, California, and is a
142 recruiter for DeVry Institute of Technology; he is married to the
143 former Arnita Epps of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and they have two
144 daughters, LaKeesha and Brittany; and

145 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
146 outstanding athlete who has brought honor to his university and to
147 the State of Mississippi:

148 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
149 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
150 we do hereby commend and congratulate Larry Myricks, All-American
151 track and field star at Mississippi College and Olympic medalist

152 upon his induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class
153 of 2001, and wish him and his family continued success in all
154 their future endeavors.

155 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
156 presented to Larry Myricks at induction ceremonies to be held on
157 March 23, 2001, in Jackson, Mississippi, and be made available to
158 the Capitol Press Corps.