

By: Senator(s) Little, Gordon, Minor,  
Robertson, Burton, Smith, Huggins, Hamilton,  
Moffatt, Harvey, Dearing, Posey, Chaney,  
Browning, Johnson (19th), Carmichael, Scoper,  
Thames, Canon, Nunnelee

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 561

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING JACK  
2 CRISTIL UPON HIS 49TH SEASON BEHIND THE MICROPHONE AS THE "VOICE  
3 OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOGS."

4 WHEREAS, from the opening whistle to the final horn, the  
5 color and excitement of Mississippi State football fills the  
6 airwaves across the South this fall thanks to interviews,  
7 play-by-play and commentary by the legendary broadcaster Jack  
8 Cristil of Tupelo, Mississippi; and

9 WHEREAS, anchoring the MSU broadcasts and returning for his  
10 49th season behind the microphone, the personable "Voice of the  
11 Bulldogs" is a veteran of more than an estimated 1,550 MSU  
12 athletic broadcasts; and

13 WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, Cristil is one of  
14 the South's most-distinguished and most-honored sports  
15 broadcasters. In 1997, Cristil received perhaps the crown jewel  
16 of sports broadcasting honors, the Chris Schenkel Award. He was  
17 the second winner of the award, selected by the National Football  
18 Foundation, after its namesake, the veteran ABC Sports  
19 commentator; and

20 WHEREAS, he has been honored by his peers in the broadcasting  
21 industry as the "Outstanding Broadcaster in Mississippi" (in  
22 conjunction with the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters  
23 Awards) 21 times during his illustrious career. In 1988, he was  
24 selected by his SEC broadcasting colleagues as the league's top  
25 play-by-play announcer. In 1992, he was awarded two honors--the  
26 inaugural Ronald Reagan Lifetime Achievement Award presented by  
27 the National Association of Sportscasters and Sportswriters, and



28 election into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. He became the  
29 first nonathlete, nonathletic administrator ever to be inducted  
30 into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame; and

31 WHEREAS, since being hired in the summer of 1953 by the late  
32 C.R. "Dudy" Noble, Cristil has described the action of over 500  
33 Mississippi State football games. He has handled play-by-play of  
34 MSU basketball since the 1957-1958 season. Though perhaps most  
35 widely recognized for his play-by-play expertise in football and  
36 basketball, Cristil's early work in sportscasting came in  
37 baseball, where he did play-by-play for minor league teams in  
38 three states; and

39 WHEREAS, for many MSU fans, Cristil has offered incredible  
40 consistency through the years, by keeping analysis to a minimum  
41 and giving fans basic information which tells it "like it is"; and

42 WHEREAS, there is no more pleasing sound to the ear of MSU  
43 fans than the resonating voice of Jack Cristil giving his  
44 signature summation of a bulldog victory: "You can wrap this one  
45 in maroon and white"; and

46 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the career  
47 of Jack Cristil, whose nationally known style has brought  
48 excitement, honor and recognition to Mississippi State University  
49 and to the State of Mississippi:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
51 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
52 we do hereby commend and congratulate Jack Cristil upon his 49th  
53 season behind the microphone as the "Voice of the Mississippi  
54 State Bulldogs" and wish him many more years as our connection to  
55 Mississippi State.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
57 Jack Cristil and his family, and be forwarded to the President of  
58 Mississippi State University and the Board of Trustees of State  
59 Institutions of Higher Learning, and be made available to the  
60 Capitol Press Corps.

