

By: Senator(s) Burton, Carmichael, Michel,  
Dearing, Jackson, Johnson (19th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 569  
(As Adopted by the Senate)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CIVIC AND CHARITABLE  
2 DEDICATION OF MISSISSIPPI BASEBALL STAR JAY POWELL.

3 WHEREAS, James Willard (Jay) Powell, who with his wife  
4 Candace, son Wyatt and daughter McKenzie, makes his home in  
5 Madison, Mississippi, is presently a star relief pitcher with the  
6 Texas Rangers organization, whose community outreach has taken him  
7 beyond the stadium to where citizens and fans live and work  
8 through his association with civic and charitable organizations;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record: he was a  
11 1990 graduate of West Lauderdale High School, where he was a  
12 two-time All-State selection, earning four letters for baseball,  
13 three for football and one in basketball; he led the team in  
14 hitting two years with .439 and .486 averages; he led the team in  
15 pitching two years with records of 13-2 and 14-2; he was  
16 All-Conference four years; was MVP in Lauderdale County; was MVP  
17 on the West Lauderdale team for three consecutive years; was MVP  
18 in the Sam Dale Conference two consecutive years; was a member of  
19 the Mississippi High School All-Star Team; was a member of the  
20 1990 Junior Pan American Team at the championships in Cuba; was a  
21 member of the 1991 Team USA squad; was All-County four years; was  
22 All-State two years; holds two pitching records for season and  
23 four for career; holds four hitting records for season and five  
24 for career; was chosen Player of the Year in Mississippi; was  
25 drafted by the San Diego Padres in the 11th round; had his high  
26 school jersey (No. 6) retired on October 28, 1995; he attended  
27 Mississippi State University where he made 67 appearances and 11



28 starts; is one of only three Bulldogs in school history picked in  
29 the first round and to have played in the Major Leagues (the other  
30 two are Will Clark and Rafael Palmeiro); set a school record with  
31 ten saves as a freshman and was named to the All-Freshman Team in  
32 1991; was All-South Region; was All-SEC; was Freshman All-American  
33 in 1992; was rated pre-season number 5 closer in the nation by  
34 Baseball America in 1993; was All-SEC West; was drafted number 1  
35 by the Baltimore Orioles and signed with that organization; in  
36 1994 was traded to the Florida Marlins; in 1995 was AA Eastern  
37 League All-Star; was Minor League Pitcher of the Year in 1995 in  
38 the Florida Marlins Organization; made his Major League debut on  
39 September 10, 1995, with the Florida Marlins and finished the  
40 season with a 1.08 ERA; and he is presently with the Texas Rangers  
41 organization as a pitcher; and

42 WHEREAS, his real work is off the field, where he has been  
43 involved in many civic and charitable organizations, including:  
44 (a) the Sunshine Kids in Houston, Texas; (b) Make-A-Wish  
45 Foundation; (c) many crisis centers dealing with mostly women,  
46 children and rape victims; (d) the Women's Center in Houston,  
47 Texas; (e) Hope Village for Children in Meridian, Mississippi; (f)  
48 Daily Bread Food Bank in Miami, Florida; (g) drug and alcohol  
49 rehabilitation programs; (h) Ducks Unlimited; and (i) many school  
50 visits to talk to children; and

51 WHEREAS, Jay has visited many hospitals (mostly children's  
52 hospitals) in the following cities: Miami, Florida; Ft.  
53 Lauderdale, Florida; Denver, Colorado; Houston, Texas; and  
54 Cleveland, Ohio. These visits to children's hospitals touch our  
55 hearts the most; Jay and Candace both go to hospitals, where Jay  
56 is a very loving, empathetic and caring man. Children have a very  
57 unique "position" in his "Baseball Heart." Through baseball,  
58 Jay's life is graced with many chances to meet a lot of special  
59 children and parents; and



60           WHEREAS, Jay's baseball camps in Meridian, Mississippi, have  
61 allowed Jay to contribute to numerous charities and organizations,  
62 including: (a) the Boy's and Girl's Club; (b) the Wheelin'  
63 Sportsman; (c) American Red Cross; (d) Hope Village for Children  
64 (Sela Ward); (e) individual sick children from the Meridian area;  
65 and (f) Rush Hospital in Meridian, Mississippi; and

66           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the  
67 on-the-field and off-the-field accomplishments of this Mississippi  
68 professional athlete, who has brought honor to his school, his  
69 university, his community and to the State of Mississippi:

70           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
71 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
72 we do hereby commend the civic and charitable dedication and  
73 activities of Mississippi professional baseball star Jay Powell,  
74 and wish him and his family continued success in his professional  
75 career and in his life after baseball.

76           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
77 presented to Jay Powell and his family and be made available to  
78 the Capitol Press Corps.

