

By: Senator(s) Michel, Hyde-Smith, Dearing,
King, Farris

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 575

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING RALPH
2 "CATFISH" SMITH, BROOKHAVEN NATIVE WHO PLAYED TIGHT END FOR OLE
3 MISS AND SEVERAL NFL TEAMS, UPON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE 40TH
4 ANNIVERSARY MISSISSIPPI SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2002.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson Touchdown Club and Mississippi Sports
6 Hall of Fame have unveiled the Class of 2002 of the 40th
7 Anniversary Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, which features Ralph
8 "Catfish" Smith, Brookhaven, Mississippi, native who played tight
9 end for the Ole Miss Rebels and for NFL teams in Philadelphia,
10 Cleveland, and Atlanta; and

11 WHEREAS, his sports career is a matter of record: earned 15
12 letters as a multi-sport athlete at Brookhaven High; high school
13 All American player who was also All Big 8 in basketball, and
14 played catcher on the baseball team; played at Ole Miss and
15 achieved football letters in 1959, 1960 and 1961; nicknamed
16 "Catfish" by MSHOF member and founder, Jimmie "Mississippi Red"
17 McDowell; during his three years on the varsity at Ole Miss, the
18 Rebels finished 29-3-1, winning national championships in 1959 and
19 1960 and the SEC title in 1960; teammate of fellow MSHOF Class of
20 2002 inductee Glynn Griffing; All SEC performer on both sides of
21 the football, one of the early tight ends in the league; selected
22 as 2nd team All American by Red Grange; played in the 1962 Senior
23 Bowl; drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles in the 8th round of the
24 NFL draft and by the San Diego Chargers in the 12th round of the
25 AFL draft in 1962; played eight years in the NFL with the Eagles,
26 the Cleveland Browns and the Atlanta Falcons; and participated in
27 the 1966 NFL title game between the Browns and the Green Bay
28 Packers; and



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

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
33 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
34 we do hereby commend and congratulate Ralph "Catfish" Smith,
35 Brookhaven native who played tight end for the Ole Miss Rebels and
36 several NFL teams, upon his induction into the 40th Anniversary
37 Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2002, and wish him and
38 his family continued success in all their future endeavors.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
40 presented to Ralph Smith at induction ceremonies to be held on
41 April 19, 2002, in Vicksburg, Mississippi, and be made available
42 to the Capitol Press Corps.

