

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Barrett, DeLano, Berry, Blackwell, Branning, Carter, Chassaniol, DeBar, England, Fillingane, Harkins, Hill, Hopson, Johnson, McCaughn, McMahan, Michel, Parker, Polk, Rhodes, Robinson, Seymour, Sparks, Whaley, Williams, Younger, Chism, McLendon

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 509

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE RECOGNITION OF THE
2 MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE TO UNITED STATES SENATOR CINDY HYDE-SMITH
3 AS THE FIRST WOMAN ELECTED TO REPRESENT THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
4 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

5 WHEREAS, U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith is the first woman
6 elected to represent Mississippi in Washington, D.C. She won a
7 six-year term in November 2020, following her April 2018
8 appointment to fill the U.S. Senate seat vacated by long-time U.S.
9 Senator Thad Cochran and subsequent November 2018 special election
10 victory to complete his term; and

11 WHEREAS, in the 118th Congress, Hyde-Smith serves on the
12 Senate Committee on Appropriations, Committee on Agriculture,
13 Nutrition and Forestry, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
14 and Committee on Rules and Administration; and

15 WHEREAS, as Senator, Hyde-Smith has been active and
16 successful in the legislative process to improve the overall
17 quality of life for all Mississippians, using her committee
18 assignments to support policies and legislation to benefit the
19 state and nation; and



20 WHEREAS, in her role on the powerful Senate Appropriations
21 Committee, Hyde-Smith has used her subcommittee positions and
22 influence to benefit Mississippi and its economy in a variety of
23 ways whether it involves shipbuilding on the Gulf Coast,
24 Mississippi's strong defense and aerospace sectors, agriculture,
25 rural broadband and rural health, infrastructure, or other
26 priority issues. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee,
27 Hyde-Smith was influential in the crafting and passage of the 2018
28 Farm Bill, which included provisions she authored pertaining to
29 rural economic development, better crop insurance for flood-prone
30 regions, Chronic Wasting Disease research, and forest health.
31 Hyde-Smith has established herself as a leader in support for
32 rural healthcare, helping to secure funding to support rural
33 hospitals and resources to expand telehealth for Medicare
34 beneficiaries; and

35 WHEREAS, prior to becoming a U.S. Senator for Mississippi,
36 Hyde-Smith served as the Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture
37 and Commerce, elected in 2011 and reelected in 2015. Highlights
38 of her tenure were her efforts to reopen foreign markets for
39 American beef exports, advocating for country-of-origin food
40 labeling, and ensuring that imported catfish meets USDA food
41 safety standards. Under her leadership, the department was
42 recognized as a "model agency" for effectiveness and budget
43 control; and



44 WHEREAS, before leading the Mississippi Department of
45 Agriculture and Commerce, Hyde-Smith served 12 years in the
46 Mississippi State Senate, including eight years as Chairman of the
47 Agriculture Committee. As a Legislator, Hyde-Smith championed
48 policies to promote and protect all facets of the agriculture
49 industry. She fought to protect private property rights,
50 supported tort reform, and earned respect for her advocacy of
51 conservative budget and pro-business initiatives; and

52 WHEREAS, as a prominent U.S. Senator, Hyde-Smith has received
53 the Award for Conservative Achievement from the American
54 Conservative Union Foundation, the Spirit of Enterprise Award from
55 the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Champion of Small Business -
56 National Federation of Independent Business. Among other
57 commendations, the National Rural Health Association presented
58 Senator Hyde-Smith with its Rural Health Champion Award, and she
59 received National Legislator of the Year honors from the
60 Mississippi Rural Health Association, the Agriculture Legislator
61 of the Year Award from the Mississippi Association of Conservation
62 Districts, the Ambassador Award from the Mississippi Farm Bureau
63 Federation, the Achievement Award from Delta Council, and the
64 Outstanding Service to Small Farmers Award from Alcorn State
65 University; and

66 WHEREAS, Hyde-Smith is a graduate of Copiah-Lincoln Community
67 College and The University of Southern Mississippi. Hyde-Smith
68 and her husband, Mike, have a daughter, Anna-Michael. They reside



69 in Brookhaven and are active members of Macedonia Baptist Church.
70 A fifth-generation farming family, the Senator's family raises
71 beef cattle and are partners in a local stockyard auction market
72 in Brookhaven; and

73 WHEREAS, just over a century ago, the first woman was elected
74 to the United States Congress, and now there are 151 women serving
75 in both chambers of Congress as of this month. More women holding
76 elected office is significant not only in that it brings Congress
77 closer to accurately representing the American population, it also
78 expands the collective imagination about what power can and should
79 look like, and we recognize the historic significance of the
80 election of an effective Mississippi Senator who has brought honor
81 to the State of Mississippi:

82 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
83 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
84 we do hereby extend the recognition of the Mississippi Legislature
85 to United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith as the first woman
86 elected to represent the State of Mississippi in Washington, D.C.,
87 and offer our congratulations on this auspicious event.

88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
89 United States Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, forwarded to the United
90 States Senate, and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

