

Chapter No. 2074  
12/SS02/R461  
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***SENATE***  
***CONCURRENT RESOLUTION***  
***No. 508***

Originated in Senate *Liz Welch* Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 508

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY "BULLDOGS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND COACH DAN MULLEN FOR THEIR IMPRESSIVE VICTORY IN THE MUSIC CITY BOWL ON DECEMBER 30, 2011.

## **HAIL DEAR 'OLE STATE !!!**

WHEREAS, the Mississippi State University "Bulldogs" Football Team, led by Coach Dan Mullen and MVP Vick Ballard, dispatched Wake Forest 23-17 in the Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tennessee, on Friday, December 30, 2011, in front of an announced crowd of 55,208 at LP Field. This was the Bulldog's 5th consecutive bowl victory and second consecutive under Coach Mullen. Never mind that the Bulldogs finished 7-6 in a season that started with a top 25. State was all smiles afterward, its players slapping hands with fans in the end zone and the team gathering to sing the Alma Mater; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi State brought a large majority of the crowd, some 30,000, who rang their cowbells on a relatively mild night for late December. "I told you we would paint the town maroon tonight," Coach Mullen said; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi State won in large part due to a pair of long touchdown runs by Vick Ballard, who was playing in his final collegiate game. Ballard scored on a 60-yard run in the first quarter and a 72-yard run in the fourth quarter, the latter of which helped space out the lead. Ballard ran for a career-high

180 yards on 14 carries, second-most by a Mississippi State player in a bowl; and

WHEREAS, quarterback Chris Reif started for the Bulldogs and played the whole game. Reif ran for 64 yards and threw for 129 yards and a touchdown with two interceptions; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi State entered the bowl game with 33 consecutive wins when it was leading after the third quarter. The Bulldogs' 34th win was secured on Ballard's 72-yard score and two failed Wake Forest fourth down conversions in the final minutes. "It's big for the team and for Mississippi State University, because we go out with a winning season and won a great bowl game," Ballard said; and

Whereas, MSU's star defensive tackle Fletcher Cox, a first-team All-SEC selection, is projected by many NFL analysts as a first-round selection in this year's pro draft. As one of the great defensive linemen in the SEC, Fletcher finished the season with 14 1/2 tackles for loss, including five sacks, and two blocked field goals in 2011. If Fletcher Cox is selected in the first round as projected in 2011, MSU will have first-round selections in consecutive years (Derek Sherrod in 2012) for the first time since 1982-1983 (Glen Collins/Johnie Cooks); and

WHEREAS, the Bulldogs have capitalized off the field, too, using the football momentum to sell out 16 consecutive home games, create a waiting list for season tickets and draw up plans to expand their home stadium; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 Bulldog roster is: Chad Bumphis, WR; Robert Elliott, RB; Brandon Heavens, WR; Charles Mitchell, DB; Nickoe Whitley, DB; Dylan Favre, QB; Wade Bonner, DB; Chris Smith, WR; Brandon Maye, LB; Cameron Lawrence, LB; Ricco Sanders, WR; Chris Hughes, LB; Jonathan Banks, DB; Chris Relf, QB; Dak Prescott, QB; Jameon Lewis, WR; Tyler Russell, QB; Brandon Hill, TE; Arceto Clark, WR; Louis Watson, DB; Matthew Wells, LB; Sylvester Hemphill, FB; Jamerson Love, DB; Corey Broomfield, DB;

Damein Anderson, DB; LaDarius Perkins, RB; Vick Ballard, RB; Nick Griffin, RB; Jay Hughes, DB; Sam Williams, WR; Marcus Green, TE; Jamie Jones, LB; Ivan Muniz, ATH; Josh Robinson, RB; Adrian Marcus, FB; James Baldwin, ATH; Taveze Calhoun, DB; Dee Arrington, DB; Baker Swedenburg, P; Derek DePasquale, K; Marvin Bure, DB; Derrick Milton, RB; William Shumpert, FB; Christian Holmes, LB; Zachary Jackson, DB; Kendrick Market, WR; Darius Slay, DB; Kasey Akins, ATH; Asian Ruff, ATH; Taylor Higgason, ATH; Jonathan Phillips, ATH; Benardick McKinney, LB; Deontae Skinner, LB; Ferlando Bohanna, LB; Brian Egan, K; Trevor Stigers, DL; Quentin Saulsberry, OL; Corvell Harrison-Gay, DL; Ethan McKee, ATH; Brandon Wilson, LB; Archie Muniz, OL; Devin Jones, DL; Gabe Jackson, OL; Addison Lawrence, OL; Dillon Day, OL; Eric Lawson, OL; Daniel Knox, OL; Derrick Roos, ATH; Ben Beckwith, ATH; Tobias Smith, OL; Templeton Hardy, OL; Corbin Stewart, ATH; Allen Rucker, ATH; Justin Malone, OL; Sam Watts, OL; Winston Chapman, ATH; Hunter Cunningham, ATH; Paul Thompson, ATH; Dewayne Cherrington, ATH; Blaine Clausell, OL; Joey Trapp, OL; James Carmon, OL; Damien Robinson, OL; Nick Redmond, OL; Malcolm Johnson, WR; Robert Johnson, WR; Rufus Warren, TE; Randy Moulds, ATH; Reed Gordon, SN; Joe Morrow, WR; Michael Carr, WR; Devin Fosselman, WR; William Berg, P; McKellar Proffitt, ATH; Allen Tolbert, ATH; John Harris, DL; Preston Smith, DL; Kaleb Eulls, DL; P.J. Jones, DL; Fletcher Cox, DL; James Maiden, DL; Shane McCardell, DL; Josh Boyd, DL; Curtis Virges, DL; and Sean Ferguson, DL; Dan Mullen, Head Coach; Assistant Coaches: Geoff Collins, John Hevesy, Tony Hughes, Greg Knox, Les Koenning, Angelo Mirando, Scott Sallach, Melvin Smith and Chris Wilson; Jon Clark, Assistant AD/Football Operations; Matt Balis, Head Strength Coach; Rockey Felker, Director of Player Personnel/High School Relations; and Mark Ouimet, Assistant Recruiting Coordinator, and

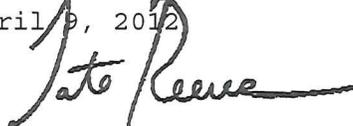
WHEREAS, the nation witnessed Mullen's Maroons do it again, and it is with great pride that we recognize this group of student

athletes, their parents and coaches, who have brought honor to their university, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Mississippi State University "Bulldogs" Football Team and third-year Head Coach Dan Mullen for their impressive victory against the Wake Forest "Demon Deacons" in the Music City Bowl on December 30, 2011, and for their outstanding 2011 Regular Season, and extend our best wishes to the team, coaches and administration on this auspicious occasion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to the MSU "Bulldogs" Football Team and Coach Dan Mullen, forwarded to MSU President Mark E. Keenum and the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE  
April 9, 2012



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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
April 20, 2012



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SPLAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES