Chapter No. 2036
11/HR12/R1791
LO / JP

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 72

Originated in House Don Richardson Clerk

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 72

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL EAGLES BOYS SOCCER TEAM AND HEAD COACH GRAY MASSEY FOR WINNING THE MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (MHSAA) CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, the Eagles of Florence were flying high February 5, 2011, at Clinton, exorcising some omens from seasons past, after defeating the Amory Panthers 3-0 to capture the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) State 4A Soccer Title; and

WHEREAS, the Florence Eagles jumped off to a 2-0 lead in the first half of action against the Panthers, playing an aggressive game and continuing pressure; as the first goal came from an assist by senior Andrew Baggett, to senior Ryne Riebock, next Baggett assisted Brandon King with a goal, that ended the first half of play, with Florence ahead 2-0; and

WHEREAS, during halftime, Coach Massey told the players, "Congratulations, you are the first half State Champions," early in the second half, Baggett assisted Brett Harris in his goal, giving the Eagles a 3-0 lead for the win and state title; and

WHEREAS, this triumphant victory gives the Eagles its first state title in 11 years, and overall third state soccer title, after some agonizing close calls, having fallen short of the champions mark as runner-up to Pearl in 2005 and 2007, and in semifinals play to 4A State Champion, St. Stanislaus, in 2010; and

WHEREAS, this year's rise to champion title holders is credited to the Eagles' senior players who showcased the type of leadership a winning team has to have to earn the title they rightfully deserve; and

WHEREAS, members of the 2010 Florence Eagles team include: seniors, Bryor Shorter, Allen Marino, Andrew Baggett, Nick Rushing, Cole Mitchell, Brett Harris, Nick Williams, Ryne Riebock, DeShawn Kitchens and Drew Norman; juniors, Zack Traylor, Will Godfrey, Brandon King, Sam Vincent and Jason West; sophomores, Matthew Owen, Dustin Brown and Austin Frith; freshmen, Luke Sims, Durham Norman, Evan McKinley, Chaz Breaux, Corey Warren, Bo Gray, Jamie Hicks and Jake Holland; and also seventh-grader, Windham Whatley; and

WHEREAS, the Eagles have been superbly coached and inspired by Head Coach Gray Massey, Assistant Coach Josh Cavanaugh and Athletic Director Brad Cliburn, who have broadened the Eagles' knowledge of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

WHEREAS, Coach Massey, in his sixth year of providing leadership and counsel as the Eagles' coach, continues the legacy of superior play and true sportsmanship in his ability to produce high caliber players and plays, as evidenced by the team's successful season and winning its third state championship title and delivered Massey his first state championship title as a coach; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize and commend student athletes such as the Florence Eagles, who have brought honor to their school, community and to the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Florence High School Eagles Boys Soccer Team and Head Coach Gray Massey for winning the Mississippi High School Athletic Association Class 4A State Championship, and extend best wishes for continued success in all of their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to Coach Massey, Principal Tony Martin, the Rankin

County Board of Education and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
February 28, 2011

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
March 2, 2011

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE