

Chapter No. 2053

12/HR12/R2081

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***HOUSE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 103***

Originated in House



Clerk

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY LADY DEVILETTES BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH NATE KILBERT FOR WINNING THE SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Valley State University Lady Devilettes Basketball Team earned an automatic berth to the Women's National Invitation Tournament for the first time in the program's history after defeating Texas Southern University for the Southwestern Athletic Conference championship title; and

WHEREAS, aside from the well-deserved title of Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Ladies Basketball Champions, the Devilettes finished their season with an impressive 14-4 record in the SWAC; and

WHEREAS, when the Devilettes began their 2011-2012 basketball season in November, the road ahead seemed dark and grim when the team lost its first eight games, not earning their first victory until January against the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff with a blowout score of 92-50 over the Golden Lions; and

WHEREAS, after defeating the Golden Lions, the Valley team moved on to bigger competitors, looking to emerge victorious over their ever-availing adversary, Texas Southern University Lady Tigers; and

WHEREAS, prior to the meeting of the Devilettes and the Lady Tigers on January 23, 2012, the ladies from Texas Southern held a record of nine wins to one loss over the ladies from Valley, but ever fearless, the Devilettes were sure to bring their A-game to the high-energy, high-drama ballgame; and

WHEREAS, the Devilettes trailed the number one Lady Tigers in the SWAC by one-half of a game, and as their season progressed, the Valley ladies took over to lead the SWAC in steals per game, assists per game and free throw percentage, always looking to steal the number one spot from Texas Southern; and

WHEREAS, after playing an impressive game against their opponent from Texas, the Devilettes stood on their home floor at the R.W. Harrison Complex in Itta Bena, Mississippi, victorious over the Lady Tigers with a final score of 68-54; and

WHEREAS, after defeating Jackson State University and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff to earn a number one seed in the SWAC Tournament, Valley once again defeated Texas Southern, this time in the championship game, with the confetti falling for the first time upon the Devilettes, as they smiled upon their final score of 70-47 over the Lady Tigers; and

WHEREAS, the athletic prowess of the Devilettes was put on display when they faced Tulane University in the Women's National Invitation Tournament (WNIT) championship game on March 15, 2012, in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as the season came to an end, the Devilettes had many reasons to hold their heads high, most notably for their first ever SWAC championship title and for the team's appearance in the WNIT championship, the first postseason tournament appearance for Valley in the history of the school's ladies basketball program; and

WHEREAS, the roster of the standout Devilettes is: Ka'Neshia Smith; De'Kisha Fondon; Olivia Kennedy; Khristina Clemons; Lenise Stallings; Alia Frank; Aspen Clemons; Brittney Lakes; Arlivia Young; Davina Jefferson; Maria Kormpou; A'Shanti Weathers; and Taylor Delaire; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize the talented young athletes of this state's institutions of higher learning, such as the Mississippi Valley State University Lady

Devilettes Basketball Team, who have brought tremendous pride to their university, their 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 Mississippi Valley State University Lady Devilettes Basketball Team and Head Coach Nate Kilbert for winning the Southwestern Conference Tournament Championship and extend best wishes for continued success in all of their future academic and athletic endeavors.

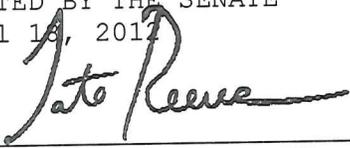
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to Coach Kilbert, President Donna H. Oliver, the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 5, 2012



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
April 14, 2012



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE