

Chapter No. 2153

12/SS02/R1244

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***SENATE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
No. 604***

Originated in Senate

L. J. Welch

Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 604

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL "LADY CARDINALS" BASKETBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH CHRIS HIGGINBOTTOM FOR WINNING THEIR 10TH CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, in the 2012 Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) State Basketball Tournament, Belmont High School continued the long tradition of Mississippi Hill Country basketball excellence from the northeast corner of the state; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie Montgomery's two 3-pointers in the final 3-1/2 minutes sparked a comeback that helped the Belmont High School "Lady Cardinals" Basketball Team steal away with a 39-38 victory over division rival Ripley in the Class 3A State Championship Game at the Mississippi Coliseum on March 1, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Cardinals (32-4) erased a 10-point deficit in just over three minutes to claim a whopping 10th State Crown. It gave this basketball powerhouse from northeast Mississippi a cherished tenth crown and two titles in three years; and

WHEREAS, this Championship came in wild fashion and against a team in Ripley that Belmont defeated three of four times this season. Montgomery, a 5'11" senior, hit the first three with 3:15 left in the game and the other with 1:40 remaining. Her final trey made it a 38-35 game and set up Leslie Robinson's back-to-back layups that came within 14 seconds of each other. Robinson's final layup, both came after Ripley turnovers, gave Belmont its first lead of the game with 16 ticks left and served

as the eventual title-winning bucket. It capped a game-ending 7-0 run. Angelia Allen led Belmont with 14 points; and

WHEREAS, "I knew they would never quit," Belmont Coach Chris Higginbottom said; and

WHEREAS, Belmont defeated Ripley for the 2010 Crown in a similar game. Ripley led most of the way. Belmont sent the game into overtime with a fourth-quarter flurry and won in the extra period; and

WHEREAS, the 2011-2012 Lady Cardinal's Basketball Roster is: Katelyn Nunley, F/PF/C; Karson Moody, PF/C; Kerisa Thrasher, F/PF/P; Elisiah Jones, PG/G/SG; Elissa Mahan, P/F/PF; Leslie Robinson, PG/G; Kelsie Montgomery, PF/F; Katlin Powell, G/W; Hannah South, F/PF/P; Natasha Jones, PG/G; Angelia Allen, G/F; Morgan Stephens, G/SG/G; Katie Lee, F/PF/P; Jada Luster, PF/C; Kela Powell, PF/C; and Coach Chris Higginbottom; and

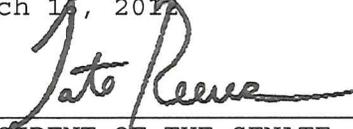
WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this powerhouse team which represents Mississippi Hoops Country and has brought honor to their school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

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 Belmont High School "Lady Cardinals" Basketball Team and Head Coach Chris Higginbottom for winning their 10th Class 3A Mississippi High School Activities Association State Championship and extend our best wishes to the players, coaches, parents and sponsors for future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Coach Higginbottom and Principal Mark Hood for the team, forwarded

to the Tishomingo County Board of Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
March 16, 2012



PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
March 20, 2012



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES