Chapter No. 2166
12/SS01/R1260
JN 1/25/96

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 617

Originated in Senate Liz Welch Secretary

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 617

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE H.W. BYERS HIGH SCHOOL "LADY LIONS" GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACH JASON THOMPSON FOR WINNING THEIR SECOND CONSECUTIVE MHSAA CLASS 1A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, the H.W. Byers High School "Lady Lions" Basketball Team claimed bragging rights for the second consecutive year on March 2, 2012, as the best team in Mississippi in Class 1A girls basketball; and

WHEREAS, H.W. Byers has been to the Mississippi Coliseum for the State Tournament six consecutive seasons and won four Championships, 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012. The first two were in Class 2A and the last two were in Class 1A; and

WHEREAS, arguably, the "Lady Cougars" of Coldwater and the "Lady Lions" of H.W. Byers are two of the best teams in all the state in girls basketball, and are by far the best teams in Class 1A. Both their seasons had been building to this final crescendo which was struck in "The Big House" on March 2, 2012; and

WHEREAS, despite 50 percent shooting from the line, the "Lady Lions" never lost sight of the mission of acquiring that fourth Gold Ball in five years. Richenda Crutcher and Justice Martin joined the campaign and kept the "Lady Lions" at a safe distance the remainder of the way. They won with a final tally of 74-69. Alexis Hardaway was tapped as Most Valuable Player and led the victors with 24. Justice Martin was very close behind with 21, followed by Abria Gulledge with 15 and Richenda Crutcher with nine; and

WHEREAS, "When I first started (11 years ago), we were everybody's doormat," said Coach Jason Thompson, who has built a dynasty at the Marshall County School on Highway 72. "It all starts with a dream"; and

WHEREAS, the 2011-2012 H.W. Byers High School "Lady Lions" Roster is as follows: Aubrey Murphy, Kavellia McAuley, Dominique Rubin, Kyra Gulledge, Richenda Crutcher, Jequira Thompson, Shadae Nolan, Abria Gulledge, Alicia Bogard, Tearney Jones, Autezia Sellers, Laniqua Collins, Alexis Hardaway, Precious Rogers, Justice Martin, Madison McCreless, Lanchai Collins and Asha Glover, Head Coach Jason Thompson; Managers: Patrick Bristentine, Keosha Moore and Drucilla Echols; and

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we salute this group of student athletes who have 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 H.W. Byers High School "Lady Lions" Girls Basketball Team and Coach Jason Thompson for winning their second consecutive MHSAA Class 1A State Championship and extend to the team, coaches, parents and sponsors our best wishes for future athletic and academic success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to Coach Jason Thompson and H.W. Byers High School Principal Sonya Cross, forwarded to the Marshall County Board of Education, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

ADOPTED BY THE SENATE
March 28, 2012

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
April 5, 2012

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES