

By: Representatives Young, Bourdeaux, Horne, To: Rules
Robinson (84th)

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 10

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MS. MARY COPELAND ON BEING NAMED THE
2 1998 BELL SOUTH FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR AT THE 1998 STATE GAMES
3 OF MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Mary Copeland, a resident of Meridian,
5 Mississippi, was named the 1998 BellSouth Female Athlete of the
6 Year, which is a program that strives to honor athletes who
7 represent pride in personal achievement, physical fitness and
8 teamwork along with exemplary motivation, attitude and
9 sportsmanship; and

10 WHEREAS, the 1998 State Games of Mississippi were held in
11 Meridian on June 19-28, 1998, where more than 4,400 athletes
12 ranging in age from 4 to 84 competed in 22 sports; and

13 WHEREAS, the State Games of Mississippi bring together
14 amateur athletes from across the state to compete in an Olympic
15 atmosphere, complete with opening ceremonies, lighting of the
16 torch and a parade of athletes vying for gold, silver and bronze
17 medals; and

18 WHEREAS, Ms. Copeland, a 62-year-old athlete, has been a
19 competitive bowler for 29 years and a State Games athlete for the
20 past five years; and

21 WHEREAS, Ms. Copeland has won numerous awards in both Senior
22 Olympics and the State Games, taking home gold and silver medals
23 in bowling; and

24 WHEREAS, earning a place on the Bowling Mixed Doubles Team,
25 Ms. Copeland participated in the Senior Olympics in Orlando,
26 Florida, where over 11,000 athletes attended; and

27 WHEREAS, in addition to being a remarkable athlete, Ms.
28 Copeland is an avid supporter and volunteer for the State Games,
29 and she hosts the State Games Bowling event; and

30 WHEREAS, Ms. Copeland has encouraged numerous athletes with
31 special needs and has given them the opportunity to participate in
32 bowling competitions and to experience the Olympic spirit; and

33 WHEREAS, exemplifying sportsmanship, effort and a positive
34 attitude, Ms. Copeland was chosen the BellSouth Female Athlete of
35 the Year for her golden participation and outstanding character
36 traits; and

37 WHEREAS, Ms. Copeland will have the opportunity to be one of
38 the official torch runners in the 1999 State Games opening
39 ceremonies and work with the State Games of Mississippi throughout
40 the year to promote athletics for all Mississippians; and

41 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the State of
42 Mississippi finds it most appropriate to recognize and commend
43 excellence, especially when evidenced by such an outstanding
44 citizen as Ms. Copeland:

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
46 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
47 commend and congratulate Ms. Mary Copeland of Meridian,
48 Mississippi, on being named the 1998 BellSouth Female Athlete of
49 the Year, and extend our heartiest wishes to her for success in
50 all her future endeavors.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
52 furnished to Ms. Mary Copeland and the Capitol Press Corps.