

By: Peranich, Clarke, Coleman (29th),
Coleman (65th), Fredericks, Jennings,
Martinson, Robertson, Scott (17th), Scott
(80th), Stevens, Thomas, Wells-Smith,
Whittington

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING VOLLEYBALL
2 CAREER OF GABRIELLE REECE.

3 WHEREAS, Gabrielle Reece, affectionately known as "Gabby" or
4 "Gab," has been participating in professional beach volleyball for
5 eight years; and

6 WHEREAS, a native of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, Ms.
7 Reece did not begin playing volleyball until her junior year of
8 high school when she moved to St. Petersburg, Florida; and

9 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Ms. Reece earned
10 an athletic scholarship to Florida State University, where she
11 majored in communications; and

12 WHEREAS, while playing for Florida State University, Ms.
13 Reece set two school volleyball records which still stand with 240
14 solo blocks and 747 total blocks, was named the nation's Most
15 Inspiring Collegiate Athlete by the Dodge National Athletic Awards
16 Committee in 1990 and earned All-Tournament honors several times
17 throughout her collegiate career; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1989, Ms. Reece began her modeling career while
19 managing her academics in summer school and returning for the
20 volleyball season; and

21 WHEREAS, Ms. Reece has been seen on the cover of magazines

22 such as *Women's Sports and Fitness*, *Outside*, *Elle*, *Shape*, *Self*,
23 *Harper's Bazaar*, *Volleyball*, *Fitness* and in *Life*; and

24 WHEREAS, Ms. Reece played in the 1998 Cuervo Beach City
25 Challenge Series with top men and women players and is competing
26 domestically in the 1999-2000 Olympic Challenge Series, the
27 1999-2000 FIVB Beach Volleyball Tour and several other domestic
28 campaigns; and

29 WHEREAS, Ms. Reece has led the Women's Beach Volleyball
30 League in several different categories including kills from 1993
31 to 1996, blocks in 1993, kills per match set in 1994 and 1996,
32 kills in season set in 1996, kills in a tournament and total
33 attempts in a tournament in 1994; and

34 WHEREAS, in 1997, Ms. Reece was inducted into the Florida
35 State University Athletic Hall of Fame; and

36 WHEREAS, Ms. Reece has been lovingly supported by her
37 husband, Laird Hamilton, one of the world's best big wave surfers;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, Ms. Reece accepted the invitation of Katie Hester,
40 President of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and Museum, to
41 participate in the celebration of National Women in Sports Day on
42 February 4, 2000; and

43 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature of the State of
44 Mississippi to commend excellence of outstanding athletes such as
45 Ms. Gabrielle Reece:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
47 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
48 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Ms. Gabrielle Reece upon her
49 outstanding professional beach volleyball career and extend our
50 heartiest wishes for success in all her future endeavors.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
52 furnished to Ms. Gabrielle Reece and to members of the Capitol

53 Press Corps.