

By: Senator(s) Carmichael, Burton, Jackson

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 14

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE MERIDIAN
2 COMMUNITY COLLEGE "EAGLES" SOCCER TEAM AND COACH STEVE CLEMENTS
3 FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL 2000 SEASON AND FOR WINNING THE NJCAA
4 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, seven years of hard work, school pride and
6 determination paid off for the Meridian Community College Soccer
7 Program on Sunday, November 19, 2000, when the Eagles reached
8 their timeless goal of a national championship title; and

9 WHEREAS, MCC stormed through their competition at the NJCAA
10 National Tournament in Tyler, Texas, to win the right to fight for
11 the championship. In the first game, MCC faced Essex County, New
12 Jersey. The second game saw the Eagles matched up with
13 Springfield College, Illinois; then came MCC vs. Bryant Stratton,
14 New York, the same team the Eagles faced last year at Nationals
15 for third place; and

16 WHEREAS, this year would be different; at 5:06 left in the
17 game, MCC had a steal and a breakaway to take the Eagles to 2-0;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the 2000 season was the most successful year for
20 Coach Steve Clements and the MCC program which began in 1994; the
21 Eagles topped off the season by winning the NJCAA National
22 Championship and after the final game, Clements was named the
23 Coach of the Tournament, and three Eagles were named to the
24 All-Tournament Team; one was also named MVP of the tournament; and

25 WHEREAS, the Eagles finished the 2000 season with a 24-1
26 record, the Region 23 Championship, and the Mid-Southwest District
27 Championship as well; and

28 WHEREAS, Clements' team was ranked No. 1 in the nation
29 numerous times throughout the year, including the final JCAA poll;
30 and

31 WHEREAS, under Clements' seven-year regime, the Eagles have
32 participated in and won the Region 23 Tournament all seven
33 seasons. They played in the District Tournament seven years,
34 winning it three times and finishing as runners-up once. The
35 Eagles are also the only Mississippi junior college team to go to
36 Nationals, where they have had two 5th place finishes and now a
37 first place finish. Clements was named Region 23 Coach of the
38 Year in 1996, 1998 and 2000, and the District Coach of the Year in
39 1997, 1999 and 2000. He also serves as Area Chairperson for the
40 National Rankings and All-American committees; and

41 WHEREAS, MCC's Soccer Camps have become a mainstay on campus,
42 serving over 1,200 youth statewide; and

43 WHEREAS, the 2000 team is in the record books, not only for
44 winning the championship, but the team also broke the record for
45 most school wins. The 2000 team also has the record to and for
46 the most consecutive wins and scoring record; and

47 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the
48 championship season of this group of student athletes who have
49 brought honor to their school, their community and to the State of
50 Mississippi:

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
52 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the
53 Meridian Community College "Eagles" Soccer Team and Coach Steve
54 Clements for their successful 2000 season and winning the NJCAA
55 National Championship.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
57 presented to Coach Clements on behalf of the Eagles and the
58 President of Meridian Community College and be made available to
59 the Capitol Press Corps.