

By: Representative Ford

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 76

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING COACH  
2 SAM RICHEY ON BECOMING MISSISSIPPI'S MOST WINNING HIGH SCHOOL  
3 BASKETBALL COACH.

4 WHEREAS, Coach Sam Richey made Mississippi basketball history  
5 on Tuesday, January 8, 2002, capturing his 868th career win as  
6 head coach of the Baldwin Bearcats, defeating Bruce 68-60 before  
7 an excited crowd of more than 500 spectators; and

8 WHEREAS, after being hired in 1967 to teach science in  
9 Jumpertown, Mississippi, Coach Richey began his career in coaching  
10 basketball by coaching Jumpertown's B Team; and

11 WHEREAS, instead of finding his niche in the chemistry lab,  
12 Coach Richey, however, has made his livelihood coaching high  
13 school boys basketball; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Richey's dramatic victory over Bruce, allowed  
15 the 63-year-old Wheeler, Mississippi, native and 1963 Mississippi  
16 State University graduate to surpass the state record previously  
17 held by Ronald Ladner, who won 867 games in 33 seasons of coaching  
18 at Sellers, Harrison Central, Hancock and Pearl River Central; and

19 WHEREAS, in the course of his 35-year career of coaching at  
20 Jumpertown, Wheeler and Baldwin, Coach Richey has accumulated  
21 quite an impressive record of 868-368 overall, which boasts a  
22 winning percentile of approximately 71 percent; and

23 WHEREAS, Coach Richey has taken these three teams to the  
24 Mississippi High School Activities Association's Boys State  
25 Tournament a combined total of 17 times, which resulted in  
26 reaching 10 state finals, and winning six of those finals; and



27           WHEREAS, while coaching the Wheeler High School boys  
28 basketball team, Coach Richey witnessed his 1989-1990 team gain an  
29 average 92.8 points per game, winning one of the six state titles;  
30 and

31           WHEREAS, Coach Richey's record chase has motivated the  
32 Baldwin Bearcats to play harder and inspired them to win in order  
33 to reach his goal, but even more so to strive for the team's  
34 ultimate goal, which is the MHSAA Class 2A state championship; and

35           WHEREAS, through his 35 years of coaching and conditioning,  
36 Coach Richey has superbly coached and inspired all of his teams'  
37 players, and has broadened their knowledge of the game and refined  
38 their skills in execution; and

39           WHEREAS, having the privilege to coach his son, Clay, and his  
40 nephew, Guy Gardner, at Baldwin, Coach Richey has had the constant  
41 support of his family: wife, Dale Richey; children, Clark and  
42 Clay; and six grandchildren; and

43           WHEREAS, Coach Richey's exhibition of superior coaching  
44 technique has proven successful as evidenced by the great  
45 accomplishment of meeting and surpassing the existing state record  
46 for career wins by a basketball coach; and

47           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
48 and commend excellence in the accomplishments of such an  
49 outstanding Mississippian and coach as Coach Sam Richey, whose  
50 rise to the top will always be remembered:

51           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
52 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
53 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the  
54 accomplishment of Coach Sam Richey on becoming Mississippi's most  
55 winning high school basketball coach with his 868th victory.

56           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
57 furnished to Coach Sam Richey, Jumpertown, Wheeler and Baldwin  
58 High Schools and members of the Capitol Press Corps.

