

By: Senator(s) Carmichael, Dearing, Carlton To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING COACH JERRY
2 BOATNER OF WEST LAUDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
3 INDUCTION INTO THE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF COACHES HALL OF FAME
4 CLASS OF 2002.

5 WHEREAS, Coach Jerry Boatner, long-time Coach of West
6 Lauderdale High School, has been selected for induction into the
7 Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame, Class of 2002;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Jerry Boatner, at age 56, is entering his 29th year
10 as head coach of the Knights. In Coach Boatner's previous 28
11 years, he has led the black and red to an overall record of 757
12 wins and 245 losses. Included in this number are 13 conference
13 championships, 10 state titles, three state runner-up titles, 20
14 district championships and 21 invitational championships; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1993 and 2001, Coach Boatner was named
16 Coach-of-the-Year by the National High School Coaches of America
17 for District Six which includes Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri,
18 Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma. The National High School Baseball
19 Coaches also awarded him Groundskeeper-of-the-Year in 1992 and
20 1993. Coach Boatner was chosen in 1992 as Baseball
21 Coach-of-the-Year by the United States Baseball Federation. He
22 has been named Conference Coach-of-the-Year 13 times and Area
23 Coach-of-the-Year eight times. In 1994, he was chosen to coach
24 the South Central Team in the State Games. In 1978 and 1990, he
25 was honored by the Mississippi Association of Coaches as
26 Coach-of-the-Year. In 1976 and 1996, hw was chosen as the South
27 Coach for the Mississippi High School All-Star Baseball Game. He
28 has also received an award from Delta State University for



29 coaching achievement. Coach Boatner's 757 wins at West
30 Lauderdale, along with 50 wins at Clarkdale, makes him the second
31 winningest baseball coach in Mississippi and the eighth in the
32 nation. He received the Wayne Twink Seyton Award in 1966 for
33 Unselfish Love of Baseball. In 1990, he received the Clarion
34 Ledger Coach-of-the-Year. He was inducted into Delta State
35 University Alumni Coaches' Hall of Fame in 1998. In 1999 he was
36 inducted into Crossroad Diamond Baseball Club's Hall of Fame; and

37 WHEREAS, one of the greatest honors bestowed upon Coach
38 Boatner was when the people of Clarkdale High School named their
39 baseball field in his honor in 1973. More recently, in 1992 and
40 1993, his West Lauderdale baseball field was named
41 Field-of-the-Year by the National High School Baseball Coaches;
42 and

43 WHEREAS, Coach Boatner is a 1963 graduate of Meridian High
44 School where he earned eight letters--three in baseball, three in
45 track and two in basketball. While attending East Mississippi
46 Junior College, he lettered four more times--two in baseball and
47 two in basketball. He was also a member of the State Champion
48 Junior College baseball team in 1965. He is a graduate of Delta
49 State University where he was a two-year letterman in baseball and
50 a member of the 1968 baseball team that finished third in the
51 College World Series. He earned a Master's Degree in Education at
52 Delta State in 1971. In 1980, he earned his Education Specialist
53 Degree from Mississippi State University. He is a member of
54 Mississippi Association of Coaches, National High School Baseball
55 Coaches Association and the American Baseball Coaches Association.
56 He serves as State Chairman for the United States Baseball
57 Federation, and is an associate scout for the Kansas City Royals;
58 and

59 WHEREAS, in 1990, he was named Head Softball Coach. In these
60 11 years, he has compiled a record of 432 wins and only 91 losses.
61 Included in these wins are eight district championships, four



62 South State championships, one South State runner-up, five State
63 championships, three State runners-up, and 15 Invitational
64 championships. Coach Boatner was chosen Softball
65 Coach-of-the-Year and All-Star Coach in 1998 by the Mississippi
66 Association of Coaches and Lauderdale County Coach-of-the-Year in
67 1993, 1994, 1996 and 1997; and

68 WHEREAS, Coach Jerry Boatner and wife, Marsha Jo, have two
69 children and four grandchildren. They are members of First
70 Baptist Church in Collinsville; and

71 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
72 outstanding coach who has brought honor to his school, his
73 community and to the State of Mississippi:

74 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
75 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Coach
76 Jerry Boatner of West Lauderdale High School, upon his induction
77 into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame Class of
78 2002, and wish him and his family continued success in all their
79 future endeavors.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
81 Coach Boatner at induction ceremonies to be held on July 12, 2002,
82 in Clinton, Mississippi, and be made available to the Capitol
83 Press Corps.

