

By: Representatives Hines, Bailey

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 129

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING LATOYA  
2 THOMAS ON HER ACCOMPLISHED COLLEGE BASKETBALL CAREER.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. LaToya Thomas, a native of Greenville,  
4 Mississippi, and currently a senior at Mississippi State  
5 University has had an outstanding college basketball career; and

6 WHEREAS, superbly coached by Ms. Sharon Fanning throughout  
7 her college basketball career, LaToya Thomas, who plays the  
8 position of forward, has recently made history by being the first  
9 Mississippian to be named the Southeastern Conference (SEC) Player  
10 of the Year; and

11 WHEREAS, the athletic ability of Ms. Thomas has only  
12 strengthened during her career as indicated by her leading the SEC  
13 for the fourth straight year in scoring, ranking third nationally  
14 with an average 25.6 points per game, and moving into second place  
15 on the all-time SEC career scoring list with 2,930 points, and her  
16 ranking 8th on the NCAA Career Scorer's Chart; and

17 WHEREAS, Ms. Thomas is currently ranked in several SEC  
18 categories, such as first in points and offensive rebounds, first  
19 on the all-time SEC career free throws made with 701 charted,  
20 second in rebounding, fourth in defensive rebounding, fifth in  
21 free throw percentage and eighth in field goal percentage; and

22 WHEREAS, during the early years of her career, Ms. Thomas has  
23 received several distinctive honors, including being named the SEC  
24 Freshman of the Year, AP Newcomer of the Year, *Sports Illustrated*  
25 *for Women* Freshman of the Year and *espn.com* Rookie of the Year;  
26 and



27           WHEREAS, there are many other honors that Ms. Thomas has  
28 received during the 2002-2003 season, such as being named AP  
29 All-SEC First Team and All-SEC First Team, named to the 2002 SEC  
30 All-Tournament Team, twice-named SEC Player of the Week and named  
31 to the Lady Griz Holiday Classic All-Tournament Team; and

32           WHEREAS, LaToya Thomas, a three-time Kodak All-American, has  
33 also received several honorable finalist positions, including  
34 being a Wade Trophy finalist, Naismith Player of the Year  
35 finalist, Senior Class Award finalist and a Creamland Dairies  
36 Collegiate Basketball Student Athlete of the Year semi-finalist;  
37 and

38           WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Legislature to recognize the  
39 athletic excellence of individuals, such as Ms. LaToya Thomas, who  
40 has brought well-deserved credit to herself and has made  
41 monumental contributions to the women's basketball program of  
42 Mississippi State University:

43           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
44 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
45 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Ms. LaToya  
46 Thomas for her accomplished college basketball career and wish her  
47 continued success in all her future endeavors.

48           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
49 furnished to Ms. LaToya Thomas, Coach Sharon Fanning and the  
50 Capitol Press Corps.

