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By: Representatives Young, Broomfield

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 17

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MR. IDREES KENYATTA WALKER UPON HIS 1 MANY OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE. 2 3 WHEREAS, Mr. Idrees Kenyatta Walker, a native of Meridian, 4 Mississippi, was born on February 1, 1979; and WHEREAS, Mr. Walker attended the Meridian Public Schools and 5 was a student in the Lauderdale County School System, where his 6 7 mother taught; and 8 WHEREAS, in 1997, Mr. Walker graduated from Meridian High 9 School, where he was an exceptional football player and honored numerous times by his selection to The Meridian Star's All-County 10 Football Team, The Clarion Ledger's All-State Football Team, the 11 Mississippi Association of Coaches' All-Star Team, the 12 Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Team, and the USA Today's 13 All-American Team; and 14 WHEREAS, having such a successful high school football 15 career, Mr. Walker was highly recruited by hundreds of colleges 16 and universities across the nation; and 17 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker selected the University of Florida in 18 Gainesville and played football under the former Heisman Trophy 19 20 winner, Coach Steve Spurrier; and WHEREAS, as a Florida Gator, Mr. Walker achieved many honors 21 and awards including starting as a freshman offensive right 22 tackle, which he continued throughout his entire college career; 23 named to the 1998 Football News Freshman All-American Football 24 25 Team; selected to the 1999 All-Southeastern Conference (SEC) Football Team; selected to the 1999 SEC Football Academic Honor 26 Roll; helped his team win the SEC 2000 Football Championship; 27 H. R. No. 17 N1/203/HR03/R1831

28 named to the 2000 All-SEC Football Team; selected as 2000's Best 29 Blocker in the SEC; and named as a Third Team Football News 30 All-American; and

31 WHEREAS, in the spring of 2001, Mr. Walker became eligible 32 for the National Football League Draft and was selected as the 33 fourteenth player in the first round of the draft to play for the 34 Tampa Bay Buccaneers as a six foot five inch, 300 pound offensive 35 tackle; and

36 WHEREAS, in his short professional career as a Buccaneer, Mr. 37 Walker has been named to the NFL's Rookie Team and led the Tampa 38 Bay Buccaneers to their first ever NFL division title and to win 39 the 2003 Super Bowl XXXVII World Football Championship; and

40 WHEREAS, as an active member of the Boys and Girls Clubs 41 program in his community as a young man, Mr. Walker continues to 42 be an active participant in that organization by giving his time, 43 money and other resources; and

44 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker has established the Kenyatta Walker 45 Foundation, which he uses to support Boys and Girls Clubs across 46 the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Walker organized the first annual Kenyatta Walker Foundation Golf Tournament, which was cosponsored by Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore and brought more than 30 professional football players to participate at Dancing Rabbit Golf Course in Choctaw, Mississippi; and

52 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker has been lovingly supported throughout 53 all his academic and athletic endeavors by his mother, Carolyn 54 Walker Brantley and his sister, Khalilah Shanta Walker; and

55 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to 56 recognize and commend outstanding Mississippians such as Mr. 57 Walker, who has already accomplished so much in his young life and 58 sets a fine example for the young people of this state: 59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF

60 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby

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commend and congratulate Mr. Idrees Kenyatta Walker for his 61 outstanding accomplishments and community service and express our 62 heartiest wishes for success in all his future endeavors. 63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be 64 furnished to Mr. Idress Kenyatta Walker and to the members of the 65 Capitol Press Corps.

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