

By: Senator(s) Gordon

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 40

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LIFE OF LEGENDARY COACH RALPH
2 WADE BRUCE OF SHANNON, MISSISSIPPI, AND EXPRESSING THE SYMPATHY OF
3 THE SENATE.

4 WHEREAS, legendary high school basketball Coach Ralph Wade
5 Bruce of Shannon, Mississippi, passed away on March 3, 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, he was born April 14, 1946, in Lee County,
7 Mississippi, to Mavis Wood and Lamar Bruce. He was an outstanding
8 athlete at Saltillo High School, graduating in 1965. He played
9 basketball and baseball at Itawamba Community College and played
10 basketball at Mississippi College, graduating in 1969. He
11 received his Master's Degree from Mississippi State University;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, his working career began at Mooreville High School
14 in 1969-1970. From 1970-1993, he taught and coached baseball and
15 boys and girls basketball at Shannon High School; and

16 WHEREAS, he guided the girls basketball team to a Class A
17 State Championship in 1974 and was the first coach to lead the
18 Shannon boys basketball team to the State Tournament in Jackson.
19 He won Tombigbee Conference Championships in all three sports; and

20 WHEREAS, he retired in 1993 and was employed at Leggett &
21 Platt at the time of his death; and

22 WHEREAS, he was an Eagle Scout and an avid outdoorsman and
23 conservationist. A legend in his own time, he enjoyed many close
24 friendships and will be greatly missed; and

25 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife of 27 years, Nancy
26 Hamilton Bruce, and four children, Leslie, Jacob, Casey and John,
27 all of Shannon, and one grandson, Andrew Glenn Monaghan; and



28 WHEREAS, it is with sadness that we note the passing of this
29 legendary coach who has brought joy and honor to his community and
30 to the State of Mississippi:

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
32 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend the life of Coach Ralph
33 Wade Bruce of Shannon, Mississippi, and express the sympathy of
34 the Senate on his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
36 the surviving family of Mr. Ralph Wade Bruce and be made available
37 to the Tupelo Daily Journal and the Capitol Press Corps.

