

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.

