

By: Representative Pierce

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALICE RUTH "RUTHIE" BOLTON
2 ON HER CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS, HONORS AND HIGHLIGHTS.

3 WHEREAS, a McClain, Mississippi, native, Alice Ruth "Ruthie"
4 Bolton of the Sacramento Monarchs has scaled the ladder to reach
5 the pinnacle of athletic success in women's basketball, bringing
6 national and international acclaim to herself, her family, her
7 hometown, this the great State of Mississippi and these entire
8 United States; and

9 WHEREAS, one of twenty children born to the late Rev. Linwood
10 and the late Leola Bolton, Ruthie is a 1989 graduate of Auburn
11 University where she majored in exercise physiology and guided the
12 Lady Tigers to four consecutive National Collegiate Athletic
13 Association Tournament appearances, two of which were Final Four,
14 and three Southeastern Conference Championships in addition to
15 being a three-time Southeastern Conference Scholar Athlete; and

16 WHEREAS, the array of Ruthie's accomplishments are far
17 reaching and monumental in their own respect, as she was the
18 Women's National Basketball Association's (WNBA) first ever
19 "Player of the Week," WNBA's first national spokeswoman for Youth
20 Health Fitness "Be Active" Campaign, led the Monarchs in scoring
21 three-pointers and steals in 1997, was named to 1997 and 1999
22 All-WNBA First Team, earned status as two-time WNBA All-Star for
23 1999 and 2001, was the recipient of WNBA Community Assist Award,
24 was the league's fourth all-time leader in three-pointers made,
25 and reached and scored in excess of 2,000 career points; and

26 WHEREAS, Ruthie has fulfilled every American athlete's dream
27 of representing the United States in world competition by serving

28 as a member of the 1996 and 2000 Olympics Gold Medal teams, the
29 1994 Bronze and 1998 Gold Medal teams in the World Championship,
30 the 1994 Good Will Gold Medal team, the 1993 World Championship
31 Gold Medal qualifying team and the 1991 World University Gold
32 Medal team; and

33 WHEREAS, with a professional basketball career that spans
34 fifteen years, Ruthie has played both domestically and
35 internationally, having seven years of experience in Europe and
36 eight years in the WNBA to date; and

37 WHEREAS, Ruthie was the first American woman to play in
38 Hungary and Sweden, and subsequently played in Italy and Turkey,
39 setting the benchmark for other American women to traverse the
40 then male dominated professional sport to develop a league and
41 reputation of their own; and

42 WHEREAS, her humble Mississippi beginnings have become a
43 trademark of her popularity as a motivational speaker and
44 community service volunteer; and

45 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
46 and commend excellence when evidenced by such outstanding
47 Mississippians as Ruthie Bolton, whose perseverance and
48 determination has allowed her to become one of the world's
49 greatest women athletes to grace the presence of the basketball
50 court, which has brought much pride, distinction and notoriety to
51 the State of Mississippi:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
53 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
54 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Alice Ruth
55 "Ruthie" Bolton on her many career accomplishments, honors and
56 highlights, and extend our heartiest wishes for success in all her
57 future endeavors.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
59 furnished to Ruthie Bolton and to the members of the Capitol Press
60 Corps.