

By: Senator(s) Walley, Carmichael, Clarke,
Frazier, Lee (47th), Little, Mettetal

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALICE RUTH "RUTHIE" BOLTON ON HER
2 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL 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 the entire
8 United States; and

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

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

27 WHEREAS, Ruthie has fulfilled every American athlete's dream
28 of representing the United States in world competition by serving
29 as a member of the 1996 and 2000 Olympics Gold Medal teams, the
30 1994 Bronze and 1998 Gold Medal teams in the World Championship,
31 the 1994 Good Will Gold Medal team, the 1993 World Championship
32 Gold Medal qualifying team and the 1991 World University Gold
33 Medal team; and

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

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

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

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

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
54 MISSISSIPPI, 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 presented to Ruthie Bolton and be made available to the members of
60 the Capitol Press Corps.