

By: Senator(s) Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING PROVINE HIGH
2 SCHOOL AND *THE CLARION-LEDGER* ALL-METRO "COACH OF THE YEAR" LUTHER
3 RILEY, THE YOUNGEST COACH TO WIN BACK-TO-BACK STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

4 WHEREAS, at 31, Provine High School's Luther Riley is the
5 youngest coach to win back-to-back Boys State Tournament
6 Championships in Class 5A or 4A, Mississippi's top leagues; and

7 WHEREAS, even so, Riley, the Coach of the Year on *The*
8 *Clarion-Ledger* All-Metro Boys Basketball Team for the second
9 straight season, never stops trying to learn about the game; and

10 WHEREAS, Riley, a former South Leake and Mississippi Valley
11 State Point Guard, has made mostly the right adjustments in his
12 five seasons at Provine High School, where he has a 103-55 record;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, this year, he took a team that included Seniors
15 Charlie White, William Jones, Willicent Seymour, Derrick Smith and
16 Derrick Thomas, and Junior Jarvis Williams, to the school's third
17 state championship. Provine posted its most wins since the Wayne
18 Brent-led Rams went 37-1 and claimed a 5A title in 1998. Although
19 Riley is only the third Jackson Public Schools boys coach to win
20 multiple MHSAA state titles since desegregation, joining Lanier's
21 Thomas Billups (5) and Murrah's Orsmond Jordan (3), he is most
22 proud of another achievement: "What makes me smile is to see
23 these young men graduate and go on to the next level. Almost
24 every Senior who has played for me has gotten some kind of
25 scholarship, whether it's academic, athletic or managerial. You
26 dictate what you do on the court by what you do off the court. It
27 goes hand-in-hand"; and

28 WHEREAS, like most successful coaches, Riley has a demanding
29 style, uncompromising on certain points. All Provine practices
30 are closed, no exceptions; and

31 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the unique
32 achievements of this teacher and coach, who has brought honor to
33 his school, his community and to the State of Mississippi:

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
35 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Provine
36 High School Boys Basketball Team All-Metro "Coach of the Year"
37 Luther Riley, the youngest coach to win back-to-back State
38 Championships in Class 5A or 4A, and extend to him and his players
39 the best wishes of the Senate for a possible three-peat.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
41 Coach Riley and his family, be forwarded to the Principal of
42 Provine High School and be made available to the Capitol Press
43 Corps.