

By: Representatives Miles, Gadd

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 35

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING COACH BEN JONES ON THE OCCASION OF  
2 HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY.

3 WHEREAS, Coach Ben Jones, who led Itawamba Community College  
4 to the Mississippi Junior College State Championship in 1975 and  
5 was a leader in the integration of Mississippi High School  
6 athleticism, will be the guest of honor at a 75th birthday  
7 celebration and roast on March 19, 2005; and

8 WHEREAS, United States Judge Mike Mills of the Northern  
9 District of Mississippi will be Master of Ceremonies; and

10 WHEREAS, Coach Ben Jones was a teacher, football and  
11 basketball coach at Itawamba Agricultural High School from 1963 to  
12 1973 during which time his football teams won seven Tombigbee  
13 Conference Championships and played in five bowl games; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Ben Jones further coached from 1973 to 1975 at  
15 Itawamba Community College; and

16 WHEREAS, the career highlights of Coach Ben Jones include  
17 being named "National High School Coach of the Year" (Southeastern  
18 States) in 1972 and 1987; being inducted into the Mississippi  
19 Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 1981; coaching the 1961  
20 overall State Big-8 Championship in basketball at Gulfport High  
21 School; coaching the North Mississippi Football Championship Team  
22 at New Albany High School in 1983; and his bowl victories while  
23 coaching at Meridian High School in 1977 and New Albany High  
24 School in 1983; and

25 WHEREAS, Coach Ben Jones earned bachelor and master degrees  
26 from the University of Mississippi; however, his education was

27 interrupted for service in the United States Navy during the  
28 Korean War; and

29 WHEREAS, Coach Jones is currently active in forestry and  
30 farming activities and is Vice President of the Pontotoc County  
31 Forestry Association and a member of the Itawamba County Forestry  
32 Association; and

33 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
34 recognize and commend the life of such a worthy individual as  
35 Coach Jones:

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
37 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
38 recognize Coach Ben Jones for his accomplishments and his  
39 influence on many young men who are today's community, civic and  
40 church leaders and extend sincere best wishes for his 75th  
41 birthday celebration.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
43 furnished to Coach Ben Jones and the members of the Capitol Press  
44 Corps.