

By: Representatives Whittington, Banks, Brown, Calhoun, Clarke, Coleman (29th), Evans, Fleming, Gunn, Holloway, Mayo, Peranich, Scott, Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 49

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF  
2 BULLDOGS FOOTBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2004 DEAF NATIONAL  
3 CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, the Mississippi School for the Deaf (MSD) has a long  
5 and successful history of athletics, with programs balanced with  
6 an overall academic program and providing students with  
7 competitive opportunities that may not be afforded them elsewhere;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the MSD Bulldogs Football Team captured its fourth  
10 consecutive National Championship title this season, finishing the  
11 season with a 6-0 record, winning by an average of 25 points per  
12 game and continuing a 28-game undefeated winning streak since a  
13 12-6 loss to Georgia School for the Deaf in 2000; and

14 WHEREAS, MSD's win against previously unbeaten Louisiana  
15 School for the Deaf in Baton Rouge, by a score of 64-33, clinched  
16 this year's championship; and

17 WHEREAS, the Bulldogs were able to put away all five deaf  
18 schools they faced, including Minnesota, Indiana, Texas, Georgia  
19 and Louisiana, and more triumphantly they defeated Pisgah High  
20 School in a history making victory over a hearing school,  
21 something that has not been accomplished since 1989; and

22 WHEREAS, the Bulldogs were led by player of the year  
23 candidate, Ro'Derrick Brown, who scored 24 touchdowns, and  
24 Cortland Clay, who scored nine touchdowns, charged the team to a  
25 season score of 298 points, averaging 49 points a game; and

26 WHEREAS, the Bulldogs have been superbly coached and inspired  
27 this season by Head Coach Tyrone Blackmon and Assistant Coaches

28 Arness Georgetown and Tyrone Haley, who have broadened the  
29 Bulldogs' knowledge of the game and refined their skills in  
30 execution; and

31 WHEREAS, a self-disciplined and self-motivated team, the  
32 Bulldogs have been supported in their athletic endeavors and can  
33 attribute much of their success to the many parents, fans and  
34 supporters whose moral and spiritual encouragement have remained  
35 fervent throughout the season; and

36 WHEREAS, they have developed a winning and cooperative spirit  
37 and a high degree of sportsmanship, and their activities and  
38 attitude reflect great credit upon the individual players and  
39 their coaches and bring honor to Mississippi School for the Deaf;  
40 and

41 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
42 recognize and commend excellence, especially when evidenced by the  
43 youth of our state, who are its future:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
46 commend and congratulate the Mississippi School for the Deaf  
47 Bulldogs Football Team and their coaches for winning the 2004 Deaf  
48 National Championship.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
50 furnished to the Mississippi School for the Deaf, Head Coach  
51 Tyrone Blackmon, Assistant Coaches Arness Georgetown and Tyrone  
52 Haley and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.