

By: Senator(s) Tollison

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 625

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING CAROL ROSS UPON HER 300TH  
2 CAREER WIN AND WINNING THE 2005 GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL.

3 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2003, Coach Carol Ross answered the  
4 call of her Alma Mater and returned to the University of  
5 Mississippi as its Head Coach, where she has quickly resurrected  
6 the women's basketball program, shattered school attendance  
7 records, led the Lady Rebels back to the NCAA Tournament and was  
8 honored as SEC Coach of the Year (2004); and

9 WHEREAS, only the fourth person in women's basketball history  
10 to have played for and coached nationally ranked teams at the same  
11 school, Coach Ross currently ranks twentieth among active coaches  
12 for all-time Associated Press ranking appearances; and

13 WHEREAS, for the third time in her three seasons at Ole Miss,  
14 Coach Ross has led the Lady Rebels to postseason tournament play  
15 (2004 and 2005 NCAA tournaments and 2006 Women's NIT); and

16 WHEREAS, on March 19, 2006, at Naismith Court in the historic  
17 Allen Fieldhouse, Coach Ross picked up her 300th career win with a  
18 victory over Kansas in the first round of the Women's National  
19 Invitation Tournament; and

20 WHEREAS, from her days as a student athlete throughout her  
21 coaching career, Carol Ross has established herself as an intense  
22 competitor, outstanding leader and proven winner in the arena of  
23 women's basketball; and

24 WHEREAS, a native of Oakland, Mississippi, Ross was a  
25 four-year, All-State player at Kirk Academy where she led the  
26 Raiderettes to three overall State Basketball Championships, was

27 Kirk Academy's first female athlete to have her jersey retired and  
28 was named a "High School All-American"; and

29 WHEREAS, Ross earned her bachelor's degree in education in  
30 1982 from the University of Mississippi where she was a four-year  
31 starter for the Lady Rebels from 1977-1981, set a Southeastern  
32 Conference record for steals in a career with 333 and was named a  
33 member of the inaugural SEC All-Tournament Team; and

34 WHEREAS, Ross was known as a pesky, tenacious defensive  
35 leader at Ole Miss where she is still the school's all-time leader  
36 in steals in a game, season and career, and she is one of only two  
37 Lady Rebels to score 1,000 points, 500 assists and 250 steals in a  
38 career; and

39 WHEREAS, Ross became the fourth women's basketball player in  
40 Ole Miss history to be inducted into the University of Mississippi  
41 Athletic Hall of Fame when she was honored on September 1, 2001;  
42 and

43 WHEREAS, Ross first served as Head Coach at the University of  
44 Florida from 1990-2002 where she posted a winning record of  
45 247-121 in 12 successful seasons, led Florida to its first Top 10  
46 national ranking and trip to the NCAA Elite Eight and made nine  
47 NCAA Tournament appearances; and

48 WHEREAS, for her accomplishments at Florida, Coach Ross was  
49 named SEC Coach of the Year on two occasions (1994 and 2001), was  
50 Head Coach of the United States Select Team (1998) and was a  
51 two-time finalist for the Naismith National Coach of the Year  
52 (2001 and 2002) before retiring from the University of Florida in  
53 2002 as the all-time winningest coach in Florida history; and

54 WHEREAS, Coach Ross was selected to represent her country in  
55 2005 as an assistant coach of the USA Women's Basketball U19 Team  
56 which she guided to a perfect 8-0 record and a Gold Medal at the  
57 FIBA World Championship in Tunis, Tunisia; and

58 WHEREAS, the 2005 USA Women's Basketball U19 Team was  
59 selected as the 2005 USA Basketball Team of the Year; and

60           WHEREAS, Coach Ross is an active member of the Oxford  
61 Community, having volunteered for a variety of civic groups,  
62 school groups and community organizations, while also fundraising  
63 for numerous charity groups and serving as a board member for the  
64 American Cancer Society and the Coaches v. Cancer organization,  
65 which honored her as its 2000 Champion Award winner; and

66           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the spirit  
67 and accomplishments of this outstanding coach who is a role model  
68 for many young athletes and who has brought great honor and pride  
69 to her community, university and to the State of Mississippi:

70           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
71 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
72 we do hereby commend and congratulate Coach Carol Ross on her  
73 300th career win and for winning the 2005 Gold Medal in women's  
74 basketball and extend the best wishes of the Legislature for her  
75 future successes.

76           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
77 Coach Carol Ross, be forwarded to the Chancellor of the University  
78 of Mississippi and be made available to the members of the Capitol  
79 Press Corps.