

By: Senator(s) Carmichael, Kirby, Burton

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 37

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING JENNIFER (JENNY)
2 HARPER ON BEING SELECTED AS THE 2005 STATE GAMES OF MISSISSIPPI
3 BELLSOUTH FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR.

4 WHEREAS, Jennifer (Jenny) Harper of Brandon, Mississippi, was
5 selected as the 2005 State Games of Mississippi BellSouth Female
6 Athlete of the Year; and

7 WHEREAS, the award seeks to honor those athletes who
8 personify the ideals of the State Games movement, such as
9 participation, sportsmanship, achievement, effort and positive
10 attitude; and

11 WHEREAS, Jennifer (Jenny) Harper is a five-year-old from
12 Brandon, Mississippi. Jennifer participated in the one-mile run
13 during the 2005 State Games of Mississippi, winning a Gold Medal.
14 After winning the race, Jenny's facial expressions, including a
15 wide smile and verbal remarks, represents "the real deal" as far
16 as expressing the joy of participating and winning in the 2005
17 State Games of Mississippi; and

18 WHEREAS, Jenny has accompanied her parents each year as they
19 visit Meridian so that her two brothers could participate in the
20 2005 State Games of Mississippi. Jenny was a last-minute entrant
21 this year and made the best of the situation. Jenny crossed the
22 finish line in a remarkable time of 11:07; and

23 WHEREAS, one would think she had won the greatest prize of
24 all time. Jenny is an extraordinary child who has worked very
25 hard to overcome the inability to speak until the age of four. It
26 was only with the intense therapy for a developmentally delayed
27 speech impediment that she was able to overcome this problem.

28 This goal was accomplished with the constant help of faithful and
29 dedicated parents who showed their love and support as she
30 struggled to cope with and overcome this difficulty; and

31 WHEREAS, Jenny's participation in the one-mile run and
32 winning the Gold Medal has made a major contribution to Jenny's
33 increased level of confidence and a feeling of accomplishment that
34 will be remembered for the remainder of her life; and

35 WHEREAS, Jenny demonstrates the true spirit of the State
36 Games of Mississippi as she is committed to doing her best, enjoys
37 the competition and has respect for the athletes, volunteers and
38 staff who work, plan and implement this annual classic; and

39 WHEREAS, it is with pride that we recognize and commend this
40 young amateur athlete who has brought honor to her community and
41 to her state:

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
43 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Jennifer
44 Harper on being selected as the 2005 State Games of Mississippi
45 BellSouth Female Athlete of the Year and express our heartiest
46 wishes for continued success in all her future endeavors.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
48 Jennifer Harper, and made available to the members of the Capitol
49 Press Corps.