

By: Representatives Akins, Gadd, McBride,  
Reynolds

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 118

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING OLE MISS REBELS HEAD  
2 BASKETBALL COACH ANDY KENNEDY, UPON BEING SELECTED AS THE 2007 SEC  
3 COACH OF THE YEAR BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

4 WHEREAS, in his debut season at Ole Miss, Andy Kennedy,  
5 recently named the Associated Press 2007 SEC Coach of the Year,  
6 made a big difference, transforming the Rebels from plodding  
7 defensive stoppers to a fast-paced team that loves to run on  
8 offense and shut down opponents with traps and presses; and

9 WHEREAS, Kennedy guided Ole Miss, a preseason last-place pick  
10 in the SEC West, to its first division title with the most wins  
11 since 2001 and recorded the most victories ever by a Rebels coach  
12 in his first season at the helm, with 21; and

13 WHEREAS, Kennedy's style of "pressure basketball" ignited the  
14 Rebel offense, sending a resounding shockwave of wins, knocking  
15 off 18th ranked Alabama, for its top-25 victory since 2004 and  
16 defeated Tennessee, Arkansas and Mississippi State; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Kennedy also returned Ole Miss to postseason  
18 play for the first time since 2002 and the 13th time in the  
19 program's history, as the Rebels charged into its first SEC  
20 Tournament semifinal appearance in six years and to the second  
21 round of the NIT; and

22 WHEREAS, in his first season, Kennedy raised the team's  
23 scoring average eight points to 73.1 per game, scoring 80 points  
24 in four consecutive SEC games this year, and for only the second  
25 time since 2001, reached the century mark in points with its  
26 100-80 victory over Nicholls; and

27           WHEREAS, the Ole Miss Rebels tied for first in the SEC West  
28 with state rival Mississippi State, beating out more touted teams  
29 such as Alabama and LSU; and

30           WHEREAS, a Mississippi native, Kennedy served as interim head  
31 coach at Cincinnati last season, where he led the Bearcats to a  
32 21-13 record and the NIT quarterfinals; and

33           WHEREAS, Kennedy was introduced as the 20th head men's  
34 basketball coach in the history of the University of Mississippi  
35 on March 24, 2006; and

36           WHEREAS, in addition to being named 2007 SEC Coach of the  
37 Year, Kennedy also has been touted as the 2006 Big East Coach of  
38 the Year by *CBS Sportsline* and the *New York Post*, among *Athlon's*  
39 national top 10 assistant coaches and listed among the nation's  
40 top 20 college basketball recruiters by *Rivals.com*; and

41           WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize  
42 the outstanding accomplishments of such a great American and  
43 Mississippian as Coach Kennedy, who has proven himself to be a  
44 dynamic powerhouse in coaching, an astute strategist and a  
45 top-notch recruiter in more than a decade of coaching in the  
46 college ranks:

47           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
48 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
49 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate Coach Andy  
50 Kennedy upon his selection as the Associated Press 2007 SEC Coach  
51 of the Year and extend best wishes for continued success in all of  
52 his future endeavors.

53           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
54 furnished to Coach Kennedy, the University of Mississippi and to  
55 the members of the Capitol Press Corps.