

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.