

By: Representatives Gregory, Bounds,
Nicholson, Robinson (84th), Smith (27th)

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 47

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN
2 SERVICE OF MS. LUCILLE WOOD TO EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Lucille Wood, a 1949 graduate of Louisville High
4 School, a 1951 graduate of East Central Junior College, and a 1953
5 and 1955 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi,
6 earning bachelor and master degrees in health, physical education
7 and recreation, respectively, has been an invaluable asset to East
8 Central Community College (ECCC), where her leadership, dedicated
9 service and commitment to education continue to prove her worth;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood began her employment at Copiah-Lincoln
12 Community College in Wesson, in 1953, as physical education
13 instructor and coach of the girls' high school basketball team,
14 then a part of the junior college, and coached the junior college
15 women's and men's tennis teams during her tenure in 1953 and 1954;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, her employment at ECCC in Decatur, Mississippi,
18 began in 1956, where she taught classes and coached various "Club
19 Teams" from 1957 to 1975, capturing state titles in basketball in
20 1970 and 1973; and

21 WHEREAS, instrumental in reinstating women's basketball on
22 the community and junior college level in 1974, Ms. Wood led
23 efforts to establish scholarships for team members and helped
24 establish the Title IX ruling in the colleges of Mississippi; and

25 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood served as coach of the Warriorette
26 basketball team from 1974-1985, leading her team to state
27 championships in 1976 and 1979 and several division titles; and

28 WHEREAS, the first President of the Women's Basketball
29 Association in Mississippi in 1975, Ms. Wood was one of the first
30 coaches of a Mississippi Junior College Women's All-Star
31 Basketball Team, was selected in 1978-1979 as Mississippi
32 Association of Coaches Junior College Women's Basketball Coach of
33 the Year and was named to the Top 20 National Junior College
34 Coaches of the Year; and

35 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood, who also coached ECCC volleyball and
36 tennis teams and led the volleyball team to the 1970 state title
37 and had five members of her tennis teams capture state titles,
38 retired from coaching in 1986 but continued her involvement in
39 athletics in various capacities, including serving as National
40 Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Director of Athletics
41 for Region 23 and in 1990 was one of only three recipients of the
42 NJCAA Service Award, the only Mississippian to receive such an
43 honor; and

44 WHEREAS, for her service in athletics at ECCC, Ms. Wood was
45 honored by being chosen the second inductee into the College's
46 Athletic Hall of Fame in 1986 and again in 1988 when the Physical
47 Education Building at ECCC was named in her honor and the honor of
48 General Denver Brackeen; and

49 WHEREAS, Ms. Wood has been honored for excellence as a
50 physical education and education instructor on numerous occasions
51 at ECCC, including being named ECCC Alumnus of the Year in 1965,
52 her selection to Who's Who of Women in Education in 1984, HEADWAE
53 Instructor of the Year in 1990, Academic Instructor of the Year in
54 1993, Red Rose Award recipient presented by Xi Chapter of Delta
55 Kappa Gamma for Excellence in Education; and Humanities Council
56 Teacher of the Year in 2003; and

57 WHEREAS, she has held various positions of leadership at
58 ECCC, including Alumni Association President in 1963 and 1964, and
59 Faculty Club President in 1967 and 1985; was chosen to speak at
60 the College's 75th Anniversary convocation in 2003; and serves as

61 Chairman of the Division of Social Science, Business and Education
62 and sponsor of the Student Education Association; and

63 WHEREAS, other honors received by Ms. Wood include: "Power
64 of One Award" at the Mississippi Women's Conference in 2003,
65 recognition in 2004 as an "Ageless Hero" state award winner in the
66 Love of Learning category by BlueCross-BlueShield of Mississippi
67 and induction into the National Junior College Athletic
68 Association Women's Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in 2004; and

69 WHEREAS, a charter member of the 2007 Mississippi
70 Community/Junior College Sports Hall of Fame, Ms. Wood is
71 completing her 53rd year as a faculty member in the Mississippi
72 Community and Junior College system in 2006-2007 and is currently
73 recognized as the longest tenured faculty member; and

74 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
75 recognize and commend excellence in our state educators of Ms.
76 Wood's caliber, who have gone above the requisite call of duty to
77 instill and cultivate the extent of knowledge our state's youth
78 and young adults need to become vital and productive members of
79 society:

80 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
81 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
82 express our appreciation to Ms. Lucille Wood for her excellent
83 leadership and dedication to athletics, academics and other
84 endeavors throughout her outstanding career as an instructor and
85 coach in the Mississippi Community and Junior College system.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
87 furnished to Ms. Lucille Wood and to the members of the Capitol
88 Press Corps.