

By: Representative Morgan

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 63

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING EAST MARION EAGLES HIGH SCHOOL COACH  
2 LESLIE PETERS FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE AND CONGRATULATING HIM  
3 UPON HIS RETIREMENT.

4 WHEREAS, after 38 years at the helm of the East Marion Eagles  
5 Football Team in Columbia, Mississippi, Head Coach Leslie Peters  
6 will be retiring; and

7 WHEREAS, Coach Peters' decision to retire comes after winning  
8 the 2006 Class 2A State Championship; and

9 WHEREAS, his retirement ends a successful tenure for the East  
10 Marion Eagles in which he has coached the team 21 out of 25 times  
11 to the State play-offs and the team has won two Mississippi State  
12 Championships, two South State titles, two Runner-up South State  
13 titles, nine district titles, six runner-up district titles, five  
14 regional titles and four additional regional titles; and

15 WHEREAS, to add to his many accomplishments, his athletic  
16 direction and motivation were the foundation for three  
17 individuals to become professional football players and several  
18 players to become semi-pro football players; and

19 WHEREAS, this coach's marvelous contributions to the game  
20 were memorialized when he was inducted into the Jackson State  
21 University Athletic Hall of Fame and into the Mississippi Coaches  
22 Hall of Fame; and

23 WHEREAS, his athletic prowess has gained him notoriety and  
24 resulted in him being named the All-Area Coach of the Year by the  
25 *Hattiesburg American* and the All-State Coach of the Year by *The*  
26 *Clarion-Ledger*, being designated as the Assistant and Head Coach

27 in the Bernard Blackwell Mississippi High School All-Star Classic  
28 and being honored as District Coach of the Year eight times; and

29 WHEREAS, Coach Peters has achieved many firsts in his career,  
30 he was the first African-American coach to win the Class 3A State  
31 Championship, the first African-American coach to be named *The*  
32 *Clarion-Ledger* All-State Coach of the Year and the first  
33 African-American coach to be designated as the Head Coach in the  
34 Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Classic; and

35 WHEREAS, he has been supported in his successful athletic  
36 endeavors by his loving wife of 36 years, Dorothy, and two  
37 children, Leslie DeNard and Gladys; and

38 WHEREAS, during his many accomplishments, he has always given  
39 honor to God and actively participated as a member of John the  
40 Baptist Church, where he serves as Deacon and treasurer; and

41 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the  
42 successes of this outstanding coach who has brought honor to East  
43 Marion High School and his community:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
46 commend East Marion Eagles High School Coach Leslie Peters for his  
47 many years of service and congratulate him upon his retirement.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
49 furnished to Coach Leslie Peters and to the members of the Capitol  
50 Press Corps.