

By: Senator(s) Browning, Dearing

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 542

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING INGOMAR
2 COACH NORRIS ASHLEY FOR ACHIEVING THE RECORD OF ALL-TIME COACHING
3 VICTORIES IN MISSISSIPPI BOYS BASKETBALL HISTORY.

4 WHEREAS, President Richard Nixon was in the White House and
5 those Amazin' Mets won their first World Series when Norris Ashley
6 launched his coaching career in 1969. Little did Coach Ashley
7 realize that, 38 seasons later, he'd become the winningest coach
8 in Mississippi boys basketball history; and

9 WHEREAS, led by freshman guard Tyler Jarvis' 29 points,
10 Ashley gained his 905th career victory Monday night, December 11,
11 2006, as Ingomar beat East Union 67-38 at home before an estimated
12 crowd of 500; and

13 WHEREAS, Ashley, 59, is 905-412 in 38 seasons at Coahoma
14 County and Ingomar, his alma mater. He surpassed Sam Richey, 68,
15 who went 904-414 at Jumpertown, Wheeler and Baldwyn and won six
16 State Championships from 1967-2005; and

17 WHEREAS, Ashley has won four Boys State Tournament titles
18 with the Falcons; and

19 WHEREAS, a Delta State University graduate, Ashley has spent
20 36 of his 38 seasons at tiny Ingomar, a rural Union County town.
21 Coach Ashley does not regret going back to his hometown school;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, all-time coaching victories in Mississippi boys
24 basketball history are:

<u>RECORD</u>	<u>COACH</u>
• 905-412	Norris Ashley
Coahoma County, Ingomar	(Active)

- 28 • 904-414 Sam Richey
29 Jumpertown, Wheeler, Baldwyn
- 30 • 867-326 Roland Ladner
31 Sellers, Harrison Central,
32 Hancock, Pearl River Central
- 33 • 866-180 Bert Jenkins
34 Gulfport
- 35 • 862-370 Isaiah Peterson
36 Shelby Broad Street, Coahoma County (Active); and

37 WHEREAS, the man Ashley overtook tipped his hat to his
38 coaching colleague. "I knew it was coming," said Coach Richey,
39 who claimed the state record with his 868th victory when Baldwyn
40 topped Bruce 68-60 on January 8, 2002. "I enjoyed it while I had
41 it. He can enjoy it for a while now, I guess." On several
42 occasions, Ashley and Richey went head-to-head in memorable
43 Ingomar-Wheeler matchups; and

44 WHEREAS, "I've always had a real high regard for him," Coach
45 Richey said. "He's one of the best coaches in the state, if not
46 the best. He just knows the game, and he takes advantage of the
47 strengths of his team. His players are real disciplined, and you
48 can tell they're always well-coached"; and

49 WHEREAS, Coach Ashley has no timetable on when he'll walk
50 away from the basketball court. Does he dare to dream of 1,000
51 wins? Ashley said, "I'll just take it year by year"; and

52 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this
53 legendary coach who has added to his legend with this 905th win
54 and brought honor to his school, his community and to the State of
55 Mississippi:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
57 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
58 we do hereby commend and congratulate Ingomar High School Coach
59 Norris Ashley for achieving the record of all-time coaching
60 victories in Mississippi boys basketball history, and extend to

61 him, his family and his school our best wishes for future
62 successes.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
64 Coach Norris Ashley and be made available to the Principal of
65 Ingomar High School and the Capitol Press Corps.