

By: Senator(s) Frazier, Harden, White,
Horhn, Jackson (11th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 629

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 PROVINE HIGH SCHOOL "RAMS" BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH
3 LUTHER RILEY FOR WINNING THE TEAM'S FOURTH CLASS 5A STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP AND FOR THEIR EXCELLENT 2006-2007 SEASON.

5 WHEREAS, DeMorris Summers scored 24 points and Provine High
6 School withstood one Forest Hill comeback after another to capture
7 the Class 5A State Championship with a 59-54 victory before an
8 estimated crowd of 4,800 at the Mississippi Coliseum on Saturday,
9 March 10, 2007; and

10 WHEREAS, it was the Ram's fourth State Title and the third
11 under the 34-year-old Head Coach Luther Riley, who enjoyed a
12 vindication of sorts; and

13 WHEREAS, there were times this season when Coach Riley
14 questioned if all the pieces would ever fit together for Provine's
15 highly touted boys basketball team. On March 10th, when it
16 mattered most, Riley and his Rams got just the answer they'd been
17 seeking since November; and

18 WHEREAS, the Rams finished the season 25-9 and ranked No. 7
19 in *The Clarion-Ledger* Super 10, played at Tupelo's BancorpSouth
20 Arena in the semifinals of the Mississippi High School Activities
21 Association Grand Slam; and

22 WHEREAS, Provine, last year's 5A runner-up to Madison
23 Central, earned the trip to the Overall Tournament with a third
24 straight win over a JPS rival in a State Championship game. As in
25 the back-to-back 4A title, victories over Lanier in 2003 and 2004
26 this all-Jackson matchup was always intense and often frenzied
27 between the familiar rivals; and

28 WHEREAS, Provine, which lost the regular season matchup with
29 Forest Hill 65-60 in November, led most of the way, going up 16-11
30 after one quarter and 30-23 at half-time with DeMorris Summers and
31 Junior Guard Scottie Haralson (12 points) leading the way; and

32 WHEREAS, Class 5A Champion Provine finished 26-10 but 0-2 in
33 the season series between the state's two most prominent programs.
34 The Rams lost to Grand Slam winner Lanier High School in the
35 Overall Tournament, which symbolized the final chapter in this
36 year's great Jackson Public School's rivaling; and

37 WHEREAS, the following team members received individual
38 honors: (All District) -- Emery Kelly, DeMorris Summers and
39 Scottie Haralson; and (All-State) -- Andre Pitchford, DeMorris
40 Summers and Scottie Haralson; and

41 WHEREAS, Coach Riley had the following remarks after this
42 excellent season, "Congratulations! Though this year there were
43 times you could have thrown in the towel, but through your
44 dedication, sacrifice and hard work, you are now champions. Good
45 job 2006-2007 Men's Basketball"; and

46 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize the special
47 achievements of this squad of student athletes who have brought
48 honor to their school, their community and to the State of
49 Mississippi:

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
51 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
52 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Provine High School
53 "Rams" Boys Basketball Team and Head Coach Luther Riley for
54 winning the team's fourth Class 5A State Championship and for
55 their excellent 2006-2007 season, as they continue to bring
56 excitement to the Capital City through their intense rivalries,
57 and we extend to them the best wishes of the Legislature on their
58 future athletic and academic endeavors.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
60 Head Coach Luther Riley and Principal Tex Red, be forwarded to the

61 Jackson Municipal School Board and be made available to the
62 Capitol Press Corps.