

By: Senator(s) Stone, Blackwell, Parks, Massey, Simmons (13th), Tollison, Chassaniol, Browning, Jordan, McMahan, Jolly, Doty, Jackson (11th), Parker, Burton, Dearing, Fillingane, Jackson (32nd), Watson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 552

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE "RANGERS" FOOTBALL TEAM
3 AND HEAD COACH JACK WRIGHT FOR WINNING ITS FIRST NATIONAL JUNIOR
4 COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NJCAA) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SINCE
5 1992.

6 WHEREAS, for the third straight year, the Junior College
7 National Football Championship was decided on South Mississippi
8 soil. For the third consecutive season, a team from the Magnolia
9 State used that home-field advantage to take the title home. No.
10 1 Northwest Mississippi Community College defeated Rochester
11 (Minnesota) Community and Technical College 66-13 on December 6,
12 2015, in the Annual Mississippi Bowl VIII at Biloxi High; and

13 WHEREAS, it was a match-up of the top two teams in the
14 National Junior College Athletic Association Top 20 Poll. Both
15 teams ended the season at 11-1 but it was the Rangers who took
16 home the National Crown. "We played really well," second-year
17 Rangers Head Coach Jack Wright said. "This is a tribute to our
18 school, our coaches and our players"; and



19 WHEREAS, Northwest quarterback Gardner Minshe and tailback
20 Justin Crawford each accounted for a pair of touchdowns in the
21 first 25 minutes of the game, handing the Rangers a commanding
22 28-0 lead. Minshe, an All-State product of Brandon High, added
23 yet another scoring strike just before halftime to make it 35-0 at
24 intermission. Crawford led all rushers with 145 yards on 19
25 carries and two scores, while McCrary hauled in seven catches for
26 150 yards and a pair of touchdowns; and

27 WHEREAS, this victory marks the third National Championship
28 in school history for Northwest, also winning the Crown Trophy in
29 1982 and 1992. East Mississippi, which handed Northwest its only
30 loss of the season, had captured back-to-back National Titles with
31 wins in the Mississippi Bowl the past two seasons. "This is a
32 testament to JUCO football in the State of Mississippi," Wright
33 concluded. "Every week in our state you have to be ready to
34 play"; and

35 WHEREAS, for the first time in 16 years, the Northwest
36 Rangers are MACJC Football Champions, defeating Mississippi Gulf
37 Coast Community College 34-24 on November 7, 2015, to claim its
38 ninth State Football Title in program history (2015, 1999, 1992,
39 1991, 1989, 1987, 1982, 1965, 1960). Northwest improved to 10-1
40 overall defeating its fifth-ranked opponent in the regular season.
41 It was their first-ever postseason win over the Bulldogs in eight
42 tries; and



43 WHEREAS, the 2015 Rangers Football Team Roster is: Tito
44 Windham, DB; Wesley Bush, DB; Justin Crawford, RB; Alfred Dickens,
45 LB; Gardner Minshew, QB; Chris Williams, DL; Jamison Goods, DB;
46 Ryan Golden, WR; Titus Ivory, WR; Jacob McCrary, WR; KyKy Austin,
47 WR; Shea Chism, QB; Alex Norwood, WR; K.T. McCollin, DB; Steven
48 Bradley, DB; Darius Thomas, WR; David Herrington, LB; Romeel
49 Cochran, WR; Todd Wilson, WR; Marquisian Chapman, WR; Chris Fobbs,
50 DB; Tyrique Armstrong, WR; D'Andre Brown, LB; Tywun Walters, RB;
51 Javonta Woods, DB; Max Joseph, RB; Raheim Avery, LB; Malik
52 Hawkins, LB; Jim Speights, P/K; Willie Bland Jr., DB; Devante
53 Davis, LB; Quondarius Qualls, DL; Aleck Hobson, LB; Willie
54 McCaleb, DL; Quandez Lee, FB; Maurice Rivers, DL; A.J. Smith, LB;
55 Kenyana Heard, OL; J.R. Burns, OL; Jordan Sanders, OL; Corey
56 Brown, DL; Anderson Gund, OL; Chris Phillips, OL; Terrance Malone,
57 OL; Jermaine Jones, OL; Chase Johnson, OL; Andrew Herrington, OL;
58 Jalen Harvey, DL; Kris Reliford, DL; Anthony Gund, DL; Coaching
59 Staff: Jack Wright, Head Coach; Scott Oakley, Wide Receivers; Jim
60 Jones, Offensive Line; Jonathan Webster, Defensive Backs; Travis
61 Macon, Defensive Line; and Benjy Parker, Defensive Coordinator;
62 and

63 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
64 of National Champion college athletes who have brought pride to
65 their college, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

66 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
67 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That



68 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Northwest Mississippi
69 Community College "Rangers" Football Team and Head Coach Jack
70 Wright for winning its first National Junior College Athletic
71 Association (NJCAA) National Championship since 1992, and extend
72 our best wishes for future success.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
74 Coach Wright for the team, forwarded to Northwest Mississippi
75 Community College President Dr. Gary Lee Spears and the Northwest
76 Mississippi Community College Board of Trustees and the State
77 Community College Board, and made available to the Capitol Press
78 Corps.

