

By: Representative Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SIMPSON COUNTY ACADEMY
2 LADY COUGARS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SEASON AND
3 FOR WINNING THE 2017 MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT
4 SCHOOLS (MAIS) DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Simpson County Academy Lady Cougars Cross
6 Country Team finished the 2017 season in an outstanding fashion,
7 reigning victorious at the 2017 Mississippi Association of
8 Independent Schools (MAIS) Division II State Championship; and

9 WHEREAS, opening the cross country season on August 28, 2017,
10 at the Jackson Academy Invitational, the Lady Cougars finished 7th
11 with a team average of 19:32 for the 4K, and that day would be the
12 first and the last time during the season that the Lady Cougars
13 were defeated by anyone in their division, as they raced again on
14 September 11, 2017, at the Jackson Prep Invitational, finishing
15 6th right ahead of Lamar School, and for the next four meets, the
16 Lady Cougars held a 5th place overall team finish and were second
17 to none among Division II schools; and

18 WHEREAS, at the Cathedral Cross Country Invitational, the
19 team raced under the Junior Varsity Division and won with 17



20 points over Silliman Institute, who finished with 81 points, and
21 the win at Cathedral foreshadowed what was to come on October 24,
22 2017, at the MAIS AMA Division II Overall Varsity State Meet,
23 where the Lady Cougars won with 46 points and improved their team
24 average by over a minute, averaging a time of 18:23 for the 4K;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the Lady Cougars were coached by Head Coach Emily
27 Craft and the team is comprised of the following outstanding
28 student athletes: 6th graders, Callie Grace Clayburn and Claire
29 Mitchell; 7th graders, Carson Carter, Elliot Rankin, Bailey
30 Blakeney, Mary Madelyn Grubbs, Emma Wallace and Emma Overstreet;
31 8th graders, Cameron Bishop and Mary Margaret Rankin; and 9th
32 graders, Blair Smith and Mary Margaret White; with Carson Carter
33 and Mary Margaret Rankin being named to the All-State team; and

34 WHEREAS, Coach Craft noted that the girls worked tremendously
35 hard this season and remained dedicated to the goal, proving that
36 they not only knew how to run well, but also how to race well,
37 which is what made them champions, and the Lady Cougars steadily
38 improved both their overall team average and team finish
39 throughout the 2017 cross country season, which lead to their
40 outstanding finish at the MAIS Division II State Championship; and

41 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to recognize
42 fine student athletes such as the members of the Simpson County
43 Academy Lady Cougars Cross Country Team, who have brought honor to
44 their school, their community and the State of Mississippi:



45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
46 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
47 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the members of
48 the Simpson County Academy Lady Cougars Cross Country Team for
49 their outstanding season and for winning the 2017 Mississippi
50 Association of Independent Schools Division II State Championship
51 and extend sincere wishes for continued success in their future
52 endeavors.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
54 furnished to Head Coach Emily Craft for the team, to Simpson
55 County Academy Headmaster Billy W. Hankins and to the members of
56 the Capitol Press Corps.

