

By: Representatives Corley, Wilkes

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 42

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PEARL RIVER CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
2 BLUE DEVILS BASEBALL TEAM FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SEASON AND FOR
3 WINNING THE 2017 MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
4 (MHSAA) CLASS 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SCHOOL
5 HISTORY.

6 WHEREAS, on May 20, 2017, the Pearl River Central High School
7 Blue Devils Baseball Team finished the 2017 season in an
8 outstanding fashion, reigning victorious at the MHSAA Class 5A
9 State Championship against Oxford High School and taking home the
10 trophy for the first time in school history; and

11 WHEREAS, the Blue Devils were down 2-1 heading to the top of
12 the fourth inning, but the team took charge by scoring five runs
13 on four hits, highlighted by a two-run double by Zach Roussell,
14 which gave the Blue Devils the first lead of the game at 4-2, with
15 Austin Izzio also having a run scoring single for the team; and

16 WHEREAS, with Cade Lee getting the win on the mound for the
17 Blue Devils, finishing the season with an 8-0 record, the team
18 toppled the two-time defending champion Oxford High School by a



19 final score of 7-3 to claim the ultimate victory and to set a
20 milestone in the school record book; and

21 WHEREAS, the team's statistics were impressive and there were
22 many outstanding plays by individual team members, but the key to
23 the team's success throughout the season has been the team's
24 remarkable team spirit and year-round hard work; and

25 WHEREAS, the Blue Devils are comprised of the following
26 exceptional student-athletes: Brodie Albritton, Zach Roussell,
27 Cameron Brunson, Mason Treat, Austen Izzio, Nolan Walther, Caleb
28 Tynes, Austin Diebold, Robert Shoemake, Hunter Black, Blake Craft,
29 Eli Lee, Blaine Catoire, Josh Hansen, Landon Williams, Josh
30 Kennedy, Thomas Crenshaw, Hunter Marshall, Tristan Schlottman,
31 Ethan Songy, Ethan Everett, Brock Craft, Rigell Robinson, Dylan
32 Brown, Austin Dean, Elliot Neumann and Hayden Dunhurst; and Head
33 Coach Neil Walther; and

34 WHEREAS, the Blue Devils have been superbly coached and
35 inspired by Coach Walther, who has broadened the players'
36 knowledge of the game, refined their skills in execution and
37 helped the players reach their fullest potential on and off the
38 field; and

39 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
40 recognize and commend excellent student-athletes, such as the
41 Pearl River Central High School Blue Devils Baseball Team, who
42 have brought honor to their school, their community and to the
43 State of Mississippi:



44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
45 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
46 commend and congratulate the Pearl Central High School Blue Devils
47 Baseball Team and Head Coach Neil Walther for their outstanding
48 season and for winning the 2017 MHSAA Class 5A State Championship
49 for the first time in school history, and extend to the team best
50 wishes for future success.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
52 furnished to Head Coach Neil Walther and to the members of the
53 Capitol Press Corps.

