

By: Representative Taylor

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 62

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE STARKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL YELLOW
2 JACKETS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE MISSISSIPPI HIGH
3 SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (MHSAA) CLASS 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, becoming state champions for the second year in a
5 row, the Starkville High School Yellow Jackets Girls Basketball
6 Team reigned victorious at the MHSAA Class 6A State Championship,
7 with a totally dominating 46-27 win against the Murrah High School
8 Mustangs; and

9 WHEREAS, during the championship game last year, Starkville
10 lost to Olive Branch, but the title was later given to Starkville
11 after it was discovered that Olive Branch had played an ineligible
12 player during the game, and throughout the past year, the Yellow
13 Jackets were tremendously motivated to win the championship
14 outright; and

15 WHEREAS, playing with full hearts and unimaginable amounts of
16 finesse and determination, the Yellow Jackets rode the hot
17 shooting of Kirsten Thompson and never trailed after their first
18 basket of the game thanks to a fast start, hustling on the boards



19 and hot shooting in the second half, and they shot 48.6 percent
20 from the floor, held Murrah to 27 percent shooting and forced 18
21 turnovers, including seven in the first quarter, which virtually
22 decided the game; and

23 WHEREAS, a 10-0 run gave Starkville a 24-10 lead midway
24 through the second quarter, and Thompson had 12 points and had the
25 answer offensively and defensively in the second half, and Murrah
26 stayed primarily with jump shots and rarely ventured inside; and

27 WHEREAS, the Mustangs struggled, particularly in the first
28 half, missing two of the five free throws they attempted and
29 turning the ball over 12 times without recording an assist, and
30 they were out-rebounded by 34-20, were outscored in every quarter
31 and were held to single-digit scoring in every frame; and

32 WHEREAS, Murrah came back after halftime down 24-12
33 determined to even the game, but they never could get in rhythm
34 offensively, as Starkville put together a 9-2 run, stretched their
35 lead to 33-14 and cruised the rest of the way; and

36 WHEREAS, Starkville's Jariya Covington finished the game with
37 11 points and a couple of steals, Tabreea Gandy had eight rebounds
38 and five assists and Kirsten Thompson led the Yellow Jackets with
39 21 points, seven rebounds and three blocked shots; and

40 WHEREAS, after their championship win, the Yellow Jackets dog
41 piled near their bench, chanting "Two times!" and Head Coach
42 Kristie Williams stated that she was proud of the team for winning
43 the championship on the floor, especially the seniors, and she was



44 excited that they got to hold up the gold ball and take photos
45 because they would remember that moment for the rest of their
46 lives; and

47 WHEREAS, with tremendous dedication and fortitude, the Yellow
48 Jackets invested countless hours of hard work throughout the
49 season and strived to win with unparalleled motivation and fervent
50 determination during the championship game, and their mental
51 stamina and athletic prowess never wavered from the moment they
52 stepped onto the court until the end of the game signaled their
53 overwhelming victory; and

54 WHEREAS, the Yellow Jackets finished their outstanding season
55 with a 28-2 record, and the key to the team's success was the
56 tremendous team spirit and enthusiasm by the following talented
57 student-athletes: Donsha Lee, Breanna Young, Jalisa Outlaw,
58 Tabreea Gandy, Alexandria Gray, Jariyah Covington, Amaya Ford,
59 Ayanna Harris, Carly Evans, Amaria Strong, Idalis Suell and
60 Kirsten Thompson; and

61 WHEREAS, the Yellow Jackets were exceptionally coached and
62 tremendously inspired by Coach Williams, who broadened the team's
63 knowledge of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

64 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
65 commend outstanding student-athletes, especially those such as the
66 Starkville High School Yellow Jackets Girls Basketball Team, whose
67 excellence on the basketball court brings honor to their school,
68 their community and the State of Mississippi:



69 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
70 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
71 commend the Starkville High School Yellow Jackets Girls Basketball
72 Team for winning the MHSAA Class 6A State Championship, and extend
73 best wishes for continued success in all of their future
74 endeavors.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
76 furnished to Head Coach Kristie Williams and to the members of the
77 Capitol Press Corps.

