

By: Representatives Mangold, Currie

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 86

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE BROOKHAVEN
2 ACADEMY COUGARS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2018
3 MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS CLASS AA STATE
4 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Brookhaven Academy Cougars Boys Basketball Team
6 reign supreme after finishing the 2017-2018 season with an
7 impressive record of 35 wins and 3 losses, and capturing the 2018
8 Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) Class AA
9 State Basketball Championship; and

10 WHEREAS, this was truly a dream season, as the unparalleled
11 determination and year-round hard work helped catapult the Cougars
12 to the number one spot in Class AA, and throughout the state
13 district and tournament with a 10-0 record, the Cougars played
14 with clear eyes, full hearts and unimaginable amounts of strength,
15 and in each game, their mental stamina and athletic prowess never
16 wavered from the moment they first hustled onto the court until
17 the final buzzer buzzed, as they outlasted, outplayed and
18 ultimately overpowered Marshall Academy Patriots 33-30 in the
19 nail-clinching championship game; and



20 WHEREAS, to claim this illustrious victory, the Cougars
21 relied on their swift feet, accurate shooting and strategic
22 defensive moves to stop the Patriots offense and outmaneuver their
23 defense, which ultimately allowed them to bring the coveted "Gold
24 Ball" Trophy back to Brookhaven Academy after winning its last
25 championship in 2010; and

26 WHEREAS, the Cougars kept their focus and played one of their
27 best games of the season during the championship matchup, and the
28 2017-2018 MAIS Class AA Boys Basketball State Championship Team is
29 comprised of the following talented athletes: Cade Brown, Britton
30 Nelson, Tanner Thurman, Luke Jackson, Jackson Logan, Dawson
31 Flowers, Piker Ratliff, Gavin Brogden, Dawson Zumbro, Timmy Lin,
32 Trey Fortenberry, Tate Felder, Tanner Watts and Ethan Nations;
33 manager, Tate Rushing; trainers, Emma Hill and Allison Covington;
34 and statistician, Olivia Watts; and

35 WHEREAS, the Brookhaven Academy Cougars Boys Basketball Team
36 has been exceptionally coached and tremendously inspired by Head
37 Coach Josh Watts, who has broadened the team's knowledge of the
38 game and refined their skills in execution, and he continues to
39 build upon the legacy of superior play and true sportsmanship
40 forged by the tenacious and undaunted spirit of each team member,
41 as evidenced in his ability to produce high caliber players and
42 plays and by the team's successful season; and

43 WHEREAS, the members of this team will carry the
44 unforgettable memories they made along their way to championship



45 status, whether it be the long hours in the weight room or the
46 grueling practices, as well as the lessons of hard work,
47 dedication and perseverance learned during this amazing season,
48 throughout their lives as they are constantly flooded with the
49 feeling of greatness that accompanies being a champion; and

50 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
51 recognize and commend excellence, especially that displayed by the
52 Brookhaven Academy Cougars Boys Basketball Team, and it is with
53 great pride that we congratulate this elite group of student
54 athletes and Head Coach Josh Watts, who have brought honor to
55 their school, their community and to their state:

56 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
57 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
58 commend and congratulate the 2017-2018 Brookhaven Academy Cougars
59 Boys Basketball Team upon winning the 2018 Mississippi Association
60 of Independent Schools Class AA State Basketball Championship, and
61 extend best wishes to the team and coach for continued success in
62 all of their future athletic and academic endeavors.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
64 furnished to Head Coach Josh Watts, the headmaster of Brookhaven
65 Academy and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

