

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Chassaniol, Dearing, Fillingane, Frazier, Harkins, Jackson (32nd), Norwood, Simmons (12th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 502

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND SALUTING THE PEARL  
2 "PIRATES" FOOTBALL TEAM, COACH OF THE YEAR JOHN PERRY AND PLAYER  
3 OF THE YEAR TYLAN KNIGHT FOR WINNING THEIR FIRST-EVER MHSAA CLASS  
4 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AND FOR THEIR PERFECT SEASON.

5 WHEREAS, the players on the 2017 Pearl "Pirates" Championship  
6 Team were eighth graders when they were told, "You'll be the best  
7 class that ever plays for Pearl High School." Hearing it then,  
8 they didn't know where they would be four years later. The  
9 perfect season was destiny; and

10 WHEREAS, on a crisp, cool, clear December 1, Friday night at  
11 Vaught-Hemingway Stadium, the Pirates made their coach a prophet.  
12 The Pirates scored late to defeat determined Starkville for the  
13 State 6A Championship, and they proved that prediction to be true,  
14 leading Pearl to its first-ever State Championship by defeating  
15 Starkville 21-17 and completing a perfect 16-0 season. "It is  
16 unbelievable," Coach of the Year John Perry said; and

17 WHEREAS, with 1:06 remaining and from four yards out, Player  
18 of the Year, Tylan Knight, rushed up the middle and into the end  
19 zone. "He is the best player in the State of Mississippi," Coach



20 Perry said. The Pirates trailed 14-9 at the half and Pearl didn't  
21 answer until the fourth quarter on a five-yard touchdown run by  
22 Johnny Winston, who put his team back on top 15-14. Time ticked  
23 on and Pearl (16-0) battled. The Pirates held on to their  
24 one-point lead; and with 3:54 left in the game, Starkville took  
25 the lead back on a 34-yard field goal. The Yellowjackets (13-3)  
26 went up 17-15. There was no way the Pirates were letting this one  
27 go; it was their second time making it here and they weren't going  
28 home this time without the Gold Ball. The next drive of the game  
29 the Pirates worked their way downfield, the Gold Ball in sight,  
30 and Knight's touchdown made it come true; and

31 WHEREAS, all season long there has not been one player or one  
32 side of the ball that has dominated for the Pirates. It has been  
33 the entire team working together to get to this point. The  
34 defense did what they had to so the offense could finish the job;  
35 and

36 WHEREAS, Pearl Defense Coordinator Chris Carmody lived up to  
37 his grandfather's legacy. Carmody's grandfather, Jim "Big Nasty"  
38 Carmody, is one of the most renowned defensive coaches in  
39 Mississippi history. He was part of some of the biggest victories  
40 in school history at Southern Miss, Ole Miss and Mississippi  
41 State; and

42 WHEREAS, the Pearl High School "Pirates" Championship  
43 Football Team Roster is: Willie Brown, LB/RB; Steve Alexander,  
44 LB/RB; Brayden Stensaas, WR/LB; Johnquarise Patterson, WR/FS;



45 Dylan Kelly, WR/CB; Tylan Knight, SS/ATH; Kendarius Evans, WR;  
46 Dillon Hayes, LS; Gunnar Dennis, QB; Jordan Bailey, LB/DL; Demario  
47 Nichols, DB; Jake Smithhart, QB; Kyle Morgigno, K; Tyrik Blakely,  
48 CB; Tyler McKenzie, S; Derrick Watts, WR/CB; Donae Carpenter,  
49 TE/LB; Cedrick Moffett, CB; Demonte Holliman, CB; Corey Winston,  
50 RB/LB; Jaylon Stovall, WR; Nate Smith, RB/LB; Johnny Winston, RB;  
51 Blake Calender, DB; Trevontae Lewis, WR/CB; Damien Lynch, LB;  
52 Jalin Hayes, DB; Jarvis Townsend, FS; Derrick Stovall, RB; Jaylon  
53 Young, WR; DJ Hill, DE; Sam Brumfield, RB/LB; Zikeyln Williams,  
54 RB/LB; Landon Carpenter, DE; Preston Turney, LB; Elijah Harris,  
55 RB; Cade Davis, K; Marquevious Cooley, DB; Carlen Andujo, LB;  
56 Carleontaye Spires, RB/LB; Josh Notree, TE; Brandon Roberson, RB;  
57 Kolby Burns, DL; Kaleb Sheppard, LB/WR; Brice Scott, TE; Caleb  
58 Anthony, OL; Nate Brewer, DL; Davion Carter, DL; Austin Jones, OL;  
59 Cody McCorry, OL; Jaylon Webb, OL; Dashun Temple, DL; Justin  
60 Bryant, OL; Curley Page, OL; Alan Anderson, OL; Damon Small, OL;  
61 Hiram Wilson, OL; Xavier Simpson, OL; Darius McCrimon, DL; Jordan  
62 Johnson, OL; Kevin Butts, OL; Kaleb Cadriere, OL; Peyton McDonald,  
63 OL; Charles Brown, DL; Eric Ronquilla, OL; Austin Mitchell, DL;  
64 Andrew May, OL; Malachi Lewis, WR; Kaleb Williams, WR; Cameron  
65 Medina, WR; Trey Patten, WR; Landon Boyd, WR/DB; Zane Coghlan,  
66 K/WR; Nicholas Webb, K/WR; and Colby Mozee, WR; Head Coach John  
67 Perry; Assistant Coaches: Chase Carmody, Justin Hunter, Caleb  
68 Kelly, Joel McCarty, Darius Knight, Terrance Robinson, Erik  
69 Stensaas, Korey Welch, Austin Wilbanks, and Nathaniel Worrell; and



70           WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we note this singular  
71 achievement by a group of student athletes who have brought honor  
72 to their school, their coaches, their community and to the State  
73 of Mississippi:

74           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
75 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
76 we do hereby commend and salute the 2017 Pearl High School  
77 "Pirates" Football Team led by Coach of the Year John Perry and  
78 outstanding Senior Player of the Year Tylan Knight for winning  
79 their first-ever Mississippi High School Activities Association  
80 (MHSAA) Class 6A State Championship, and extend our best wishes to  
81 the team, coaches, parents and sponsors for future success.

82           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
83 Coach John Perry for the team, forwarded to Pearl High School  
84 Principal Chris Chism and the Pearl School Board, and made  
85 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

