

By: Senator(s) Caughman, Barnett, Jackson
(32nd)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 566

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 SIMPSON COUNTY ACADEMY CROSS COUNTRY "LADY COUGARS" FOR WINNING
3 THE 2017 MAIS DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, we join the students, coaches, parents and faculty
5 of Simpson County Academy in honoring the "Lady Cougars" Cross
6 Country Team for winning the 2017 MAIS Division II State
7 Championship; and

8 WHEREAS, the young team competed in Varsity Meets for the
9 majority of the season. Simpson County Academy opened the cross
10 country season on August 28, 2017, at the Jackson Academy
11 Invitational. They finished 7th with a team average of 19:32 for
12 a 4k. The field that finished in front of Simpson County Academy
13 was comprised of Division I schools, with the exception of Lamar
14 who finished fifth. August 28, 2017, would be the first and last
15 time during the season that Simpson County Academy was defeated by
16 anyone in their division. They raced again on September 11th at
17 the Jackson Prep Invitational, finishing 6th right ahead of Lamar.
18 For the next four meets, Simpson County Academy held a 5th place



19 overall team finish and was second to none among Division II
20 schools. At the Cathedral Cross Country Invitational, the team
21 raced under the Junior Varsity Division and won with 17 points
22 over Silliman Institute. The win at Cathedral foreshadowed what
23 was to come on October 24th at the MAIS AMA Division II Overall
24 Varsity State Meet. Simpson won the Meet coming in with 46 points
25 and improving their team average by over a minute, now averaging a
26 time of 18:23 for a 4k; and

27 WHEREAS, the team was coached by Emily Craft and included 6th
28 graders, Callie Grace Clayburn and Claire Mitchell; 7th graders:
29 Carson Carter, Elliot Rankin, Bailey Blakeney, Mary Madelyn
30 Grubbs, Emma Wallace and Emma Overstreet; 8th graders, Cameron
31 Bishop and Mary Margaret Rankin; 9th graders, Blair Smith and Mary
32 Margaret White; and All-State Carson Carter and Mary Margaret
33 Rankin; and

34 WHEREAS, Coach Craft commented, "The girls really worked hard
35 this season and remained dedicated to the goal. They proved they
36 knew not only how to run well, but how to race well and that is
37 what made us Champions"; and

38 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group
39 of student athletes who have brought honor to their school, their
40 community and to the State of Mississippi:

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
42 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
43 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Simpson County Academy



44 Cross Country "Lady Cougars" for winning the 2017 MAIS Division II
45 State Championship, and extend our best wishes for future success.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
47 Coach Emily Craft for the team, forwarded to Simpson Academy
48 Headmaster Billy W. Hankins, and made available to the Capitol
49 Press Corps.

