

By: Senator(s) Burton, Caughman, Harkins,
Jackson (32nd), Kirby

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 636

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 EAST RANKIN ACADEMY "LADY PATRIOTS" VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM AND
3 COACH ROD DELANEY FOR WINNING THE MAIS AAAA DIVISION II STATE
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, in the face of adversity, the East Rankin Academy
6 "Lady Patriots" Varsity Basketball Team completed the 2017-2018
7 season with an outstanding 29-6 record (8-0 in South District),
8 were the MAIS AAAA Division II South District Tournament
9 Champions, and MAIS AAAA Division II State Champions; and

10 WHEREAS, December 23, 2017, was the date that changed the
11 season. The team had gathered for a basketball Christmas party in
12 Brandon. Around midnight, Brooke and Leah Cunningham (sisters)
13 were involved in an automobile accident, and Leah passed away.
14 Brooke was a junior and Leah was a sophomore, and both were
15 members of the East Rankin Academy Girls Varsity Basketball Team.
16 The team showed tremendous character after the heartbreak of
17 December 23rd. They stuck together as a team and held each other
18 up as they laid to rest a precious teammate. The team honored



19 Leah by a memorial patch worn on their jersey with her #14 and
20 also wore shooting shirts in her favorite color; and

21 WHEREAS, "I have never seen a group of girls that never gave
22 up and continued to honor their teammate by the way they played
23 the game. They are true champions," stated Coach Rod Delaney.
24 "Champions are made and molded during trying times of adversity.
25 These young ladies truly deserve the Title of Champions"; and

26 WHEREAS, the 2018 East Rankin Academy "Lady Patriots" Varsity
27 Basketball Team Roster is: Bailey Thompson, Riley Scoles, Mollie
28 Macon, Brooke Turnage, Taylor Turman, Rachel Dearman, Lauren
29 Parker, Paige Loper, Neely Brunt, Kariana Simmons, Brooke
30 Cunningham, Emilee Tadlock, Macy Leach, Harley Bowman, Anna Claire
31 Shamburger, Kealey Bradford, Maile Tubbs, Anna Grace Boykin, Hanna
32 Caldwell and Adyson Tadlock; Head Coach Rod Delaney; Assistant
33 Coaches: Grant Thompson, Trudy Case Dawkins and Seth Cheatham;
34 Managers, Lexey Stuart and Parker Russell; Statisticians: Margie
35 Warren, Kaeleigh Thompson and Rachel Thompson; and Videographer,
36 Maddie Morgan; and

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

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
41 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
42 we do hereby commend and congratulate the East Rankin Academy
43 "Lady Patriots" Varsity Basketball Team and Coach Rod Delaney for



44 winning the MAIS AAAA Division II State Championship, and extend
45 our best wishes to the team for future success and our prayers for
46 their lost teammate.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
48 Coach Rod Delany, Headmaster Dan Boyce and Athletic Administrator
49 Dan Davis for the team, forwarded to the East Rankin Academy Board
50 of Trustees, and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

