

By: Representatives Wallace, Sanford,
Weathersby

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 87

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2018-2019 SIMPSON ACADEMY COUGARS
2 BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2019 MAIS CLASS AAAA
3 DIVISION II STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, the Simpson Academy "Cougars" Boys Basketball Team
5 reign supreme after finishing the 2018-2019 season with an
6 impressive record of 26 wins and 9 losses, and capturing the 2019
7 Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) Class AAAA
8 Division II State Basketball Championship; and

9 WHEREAS, throughout the state tournament games, the Cougars
10 played with clear eyes, full hearts and unimaginable amounts of
11 strength, and in each game, their mental stamina and athletic
12 prowess never wavered from the moment they first hustled onto the
13 court until the final buzzer buzzed, as they outlasted, outplayed
14 and ultimately overpowered each of their opponents; and

15 WHEREAS, to claim this illustrious victory, the Cougars
16 relied on their swift feet, accurate shooting and strategic
17 defensive moves to stop the opposing offense and outmaneuver their



18 defense, which ultimately allowed them to bring the coveted trophy
19 back to Simpson Academy; and

20 WHEREAS, the Cougars kept their focus and played one of their
21 best games of the season during the championship matchup, and
22 several key players were rewarded for their efforts, including,
23 Bowen Kelly, Joe Berry, Hunter Cline and Thomas Pepper, who were
24 named to the All-State Team, and Bowen Kelly, who was named an All
25 Star; and

26 WHEREAS, additionally, the Simpson Academy Cougars Basketball
27 Team were the District Tournament Champions and are comprised of
28 the following talented athletes: Joe Berry, Jaden Wedgeworth,
29 Morgan Leonard, Jered Smith, Todd Larkin, Hunter Cline, Cole
30 Groover, Drew Williams, Layton Brown, Bowen Kelly, Warner Watkins,
31 Josh Flynt, Thomas Pepper and Daniel Pepper; and

32 WHEREAS, the Simpson Academy Cougars Basketball Team has been
33 superbly coached and inspired by Head Coach James Crain and
34 Assistant Coach Carey Crain, who have broadened the players'
35 knowledge of the game and refined their skills in execution; and

36 WHEREAS, the championship season would not have been possible
37 without the help of scorekeeper, Austin Lane, and statistic
38 keepers, Ramsey Jones and Jacob Johns; and

39 WHEREAS, Coaches James Crain and Carey Crain continue to
40 build upon the legacy of superior play and true sportsmanship
41 forged by the tenacious and undaunted spirit of each team member,



42 as evidenced in their ability to produce high caliber players and
43 plays and by the team's successful season; and

44 WHEREAS, the members of this team will carry the
45 unforgettable memories they made along their way to championship
46 status, whether it be the long hours in the weight room or the
47 grueling practices, as well as the lessons of hard work,
48 dedication and perseverance learned during this amazing season,
49 throughout their lives as they are constantly flooded with the
50 feeling of greatness that accompanies being a champion; and

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

57 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
58 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
59 commend and congratulate the 2018-2019 Simpson Academy Cougars
60 Boys Basketball Team upon winning the 2019 MAIS Class AAAA
61 Division II State Basketball Championship, and extend best wishes
62 to the team and coaches for continued success in all of their
63 future endeavors.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
65 furnished to Simpson Academy Headmaster Billy Wayne Hankins,
66 Athletic Director Winston Mullins, Head Coach James Crain,



67 Assistant Coach Carey Crain and to the members of the Capitol
68 Press Corps.

