

By: Senator(s) Kirby, Caughman, Harkins,  
Branning, Clarke, Frazier, Jackson (32nd),  
McDaniel

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 642

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE THE PEARL  
2 HIGH SCHOOL "LADY PIRATES" GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM AND COACHES LACEY  
3 AND JASON KENNEDY FOR WINNING THE MHSAA CLASS 6A STATE  
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, Pearl High School "Lady Pirates" players and coaches  
6 hoisted the trophy following the "Lady Pirates" 59-48 win over  
7 Terry on March 9, 2019; and

8 WHEREAS, the Lady Pirates entered the year as one of the top  
9 teams in the state after making the Class 6A Final Four in 2018.  
10 They returned Dandy Dozen Jayla Alexander and Guard Olivia Knight  
11 and added another star player when MaKayla Minett transferred to  
12 Pearl. Head Coach Lacey Kennedy had spent six years building  
13 Pearl into a basketball powerhouse and primed for a State Title;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Pearl's game against region foe Terry for the Class  
16 6A Championship wasn't easy. Despite what their 31-1 record  
17 heading into the title game might indicate, their season wasn't  
18 easy with their Head Coach Lacey Kennedy, an enlisted member of  
19 the United States Army Reserves, deployed to Qatar after the



20 second game of the season. Then, they had to adjust to her  
21 husband and Assistant Coach, Jason, as the new Interim Head Coach.  
22 What kept them going through those tough times in a long season  
23 was the promise they made to their coach long before the first  
24 game of the season. At the beginning of the summer of 2018, the  
25 Lady Pirates promised they would get their Head Coach a Gold Ball;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, after the final buzzer sounded, they let their  
28 emotions overflow knowing they had made good on their promise.  
29 Makayla Minett and others cried tears of joy. Jayla Alexander was  
30 all smiles. Olivia Knight leaped into Minett's arms in  
31 exultation. "It feels amazing knowing that the mission is  
32 complete for Coach (Lacey) Kennedy," Knight said. "She has  
33 something to come back to and we kept our promise to her." The  
34 team swarmed around the Gold Ball while chanting "For LK," short  
35 for "For Lacey Kennedy"; and

36 WHEREAS, Jayla Alexander, who had led the way for the Lady  
37 Pirates all season, finished the Title Game with 21 points, 11  
38 rebounds, four assists and three steals. Jayla was named the  
39 game's Most Valuable Player for her efforts and got to go out on  
40 top in her last game as a Lady Pirate. But more important to her  
41 than anything, she helped deliver a State Title to their deployed  
42 Head Coach; and

43 WHEREAS, the 2019 Lady Pirates Championship Roster is:  
44 Olivia Knight, PG, SG; Nya Hatcher, G; Amyra Sanders, C, G; Akyra



45 Bennett, G; Mackenzie Carter, F, G; Hayley Bounds, C, G, F; Keke  
46 Nichols, W; Ashlon Fagon, SG; Kaliyah Taylor, SG, PG; Clydesia  
47 Adams, F; Jayla Alexander, PG, SG; MaKayla Minett, P; Vicky  
48 Harvey, P; Jade Myles, F, G; Andrea Mack, G; and Victoria Walters,  
49 P; Head Coach Lacey Kennedy; and Associate Head Coach and Interim  
50 Head Coach Jason Kennedy; and

51 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we recognize this group  
52 of student athletes who overcame adversity to bring honor to their  
53 school, their community, their deployed coach and to the State of  
54 Mississippi:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
56 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
57 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Pearl High School "Lady  
58 Pirates" Girls Basketball Team and Coaches Lacey and Jason Kennedy  
59 for winning the Mississippi High School Activities Association  
60 (MHSAA) Class 6A State Championship, and extend our best wishes to  
61 the team, coaches, parents and sponsors for future success.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to  
63 Coaches Lacy and Jason Kennedy and Pearl Principal Chris Chism,  
64 forwarded to the Pearl School Board, and made available to the  
65 Capitol Press Corps.

