

By: Representatives Wallace, Sanford,  
Weathersby

To: Rules

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2019-2020 SIMPSON ACADEMY COUGARS  
2 BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2020 MAIS OVERALL STATE  
3 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SCHOOL HISTORY.

4 WHEREAS, the Simpson Academy Cougars Boys Basketball Team  
5 made history after finishing the 2019-2020 season with an  
6 impressive record of 37 wins and 6 losses, and capturing the 2020  
7 Mississippi Association of Independent Schools (MAIS) Overall  
8 State Basketball Championship for the first time in the school's  
9 history; and

10 WHEREAS, on an historic Saturday afternoon at A.E. Wood  
11 Coliseum, the Cougars, winners of 14 straight games to end the  
12 year, defeated Jackson Prep 45-32 to claim the overall title,  
13 having jumped out in front of Prep in the first quarter by a score  
14 of 16-8 and never looking back, leading 26-19 at halftime and  
15 maintaining their 7-point lead to end the third quarter with a  
16 score of 34-27 before outscoring Prep 11 to 5 in the fourth  
17 quarter to achieve the sweet taste of victory; and



18 WHEREAS, to get to the title game, the Cougars defeated Oak  
19 Hill Academy 49-44 in the opening round, defeated Christian  
20 Collegiate Academy 59-28 in the quarterfinal round, and defeated  
21 Madison-Ridgeland Academy 73-53 in the semifinal round; and

22 WHEREAS, additionally, the Simpson Academy Cougars Basketball  
23 Team were the State 4A Champions, the South 4A Champions and the  
24 District 3 4A Champions and are comprised of the following  
25 talented athletes: Joe Berry, Jaden Wedgeworth, Scott Maddox,  
26 Jered Smith, Todd Larkin, Drew Williams, Cole Groover, Travis  
27 Cockrell, Seth Cooper, Parker Jones, Zach Brown, Cameron Larkin,  
28 Warner Watkins, Dawsan Drennan, Josh Flynt, Crosby Mullins and  
29 Wesley Boyd; and

30 WHEREAS, the Simpson Academy Cougars Boys Basketball Team, a  
31 program that has a rich history of state championships in 2001,  
32 2014, 2015, 2019 and now 2020, has been superbly coached and  
33 inspired by Head Coach James Crain and Assistant Coach Carey  
34 Crain, who have broadened the players' knowledge of the game and  
35 refined their skills in execution; and

36 WHEREAS, Coaches James Crain and Carey Crain continue to  
37 build upon the legacy of superior play and true sportsmanship  
38 forged by the tenacious and undaunted spirit of each team member,  
39 as evidenced in their ability to produce high caliber players and  
40 plays and by the team's successful season; and

41 WHEREAS, the members of this team will carry the  
42 unforgettable memories they made along their way to championship



43 status, whether it be the long hours in the weight room or the  
44 grueling practices, as well as the lessons of hard work,  
45 dedication and perseverance learned during this amazing season,  
46 throughout their lives as they are constantly flooded with the  
47 feeling of greatness that accompanies being a champion; and

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

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
55 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
56 commend and congratulate the 2019-2020 Simpson Academy Cougars  
57 Boys Basketball Team upon winning the 2020 MAIS Overall State  
58 Basketball Championship, and extend best wishes to the team and  
59 coaches for continued success in all of their future endeavors.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
61 furnished to Head Coach James Crain, Assistant Coach Carey Crain,  
62 Simpson Academy Headmaster Billy Wayne Hankins, Athletic Director  
63 Winston Mullins and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

