MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representative Lamar

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE 2 NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE RANGERS FOOTBALL TEAM AND 3 COACH BENJY PARKER FOR WINNING CONSECUTIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 4 TITLES IN THE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES 5 CONFERENCE.

6 WHEREAS, a high-flying first quarter resulted in 21 quick 7 points from No. 4 ranked Northwest, as the Rangers soared past the 8 Eagles, 56-21, in the Mississippi Association of Community 9 Colleges Conference Championship bout at Bobby Franklin Field; and 10 WHEREAS, earning its second consecutive MACCC title with the victory, and repeating as conference champions for the first time 11 12 since 1991-92, this decided accomplishment marks Northwest's 11th conference title for the Rangers and the third since 2015; and 13 14 WHEREAS, after the Rangers' defense stifled the Eagles' first 15 possession, Northwest needed only one play to reach the end zone, as quarterback Michael Hiers connected with D.T. Sheffield on a 16 17 72-yard touchdown reception, and forcing the Eagles to punt once again on the ensuing possession, the Rangers drove 81 yards on 18

H. C. R. No. 49 **~ OFFICIAL ~** N1/2 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 1 (DJ\KW) 19 three plays to tack on a 14-0 advantage, thanks to an 11-yard 20 touchdown run from Jamarien Bracey; and

21 WHEREAS, even in their most diligent efforts Hinds failed to 22 mount a defense formidable enough to impede Northwest's offensive 23 line, as the Rangers capitalized on a short possession downfield, 24 finishing a four-play, 66-yard drive with a 46-yard connection 25 from Hiers to Sheffield, followed by Eli Hamlin's third successful 26 point-after attempt, further widening the gap to 21-0; and

27 WHEREAS, remaining consistent with every previous offensive 28 possession, the Rangers marched downfield to the Hinds' 15-yard 29 line, facing fourth and short and appearing to be content with a 30 field goal attempt, only for Tanner Gillis to complete a first 31 down pass to Kevin Diaz on the fake, which set up a short 32 touchdown from Bracey to give the Rangers a 35-14 advantage; and

33 WHEREAS, the second half commenced with the Rangers in 34 possession of the pigskin, but the Eagles' defense materialized to 35 earn a stop on Jaylen Knight's interception of Hiers in the end 36 zone after the Rangers had advanced to the Eagles' 15-yard line, 37 cutting the deficit to 35-21; and

38 WHEREAS, sensing a momentum change in Hinds' efforts to stage 39 a comeback, the Rangers' Jarvis Townsend clipped the Eagles' wings 40 by intercepting McCray's pass attempt for a 36-yard pick-six and 41 the first score of the second half, doubling the lead to 42-21; 42 and

H. C. R. No. 49 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 2 (DJ\KW) WHEREAS, Northwest concluded a six-play, 54-yard drive with Bracey's third touchdown of the day with 12:09 left in the contest, and the Rangers' following possession resulted in all-time leader in rushing touchdowns, Jaquerrious Williams, punching one in from 15 yards out for his last score on the home field, and to commence the championship celebration; and

WHEREAS, Northwest delivered a season-high 651 yards of total offense, the most recorded in any game during the Benjy Parker-Stan Hill era and the most since the 2015 NJCAA Championship game, where the Rangers totaled 680 yards; and

53 WHEREAS, Hiers finished 14 of 22 and collected his sixth 54 career 300-yard passing game, finishing with 343, 22 yards shy of 55 his career-best 365-yard effort at Coahoma earlier this season, 56 concluding his season ranked as fifth in all-time passing yards 57 with 4,122, surpassing Bobby Robison's total of 4,096 set from 58 2001-02; and

59 WHEREAS, despite only reaching the end zone once, Williams quietly put together his best performance of the season, finishing 60 61 with 203 yards on 23 carries, following his previous career 62 200-plus yard performance in 2019 in a 250-yard effort on 15 63 carries in a blowout win against Coahoma, a career total that 64 ranks him as second in career rushing yards, with 2,345 yards; and WHEREAS, Fred Harris, Jr., led all Northwest defenders with 65 66 nine total tackles, while Pearson earned eight tackles, an

67 interception, a pass breakup and a forced fumble, Sam

H. C. R. No. 49 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 3 (DJ\KW) 68 Brumfield was limited to just four tackles, but two were sacks 69 totaling a loss of 12 yards for Hinds; and

70 WHEREAS, the members of the 2021 Rangers' MACCC State 71 Championship Football Team are: Jackson Allen, Tevin Bell, Harper 72 Blake, Jamarien Bracey, Deshaun Brooks, Sam Brumfield, Rayyan 73 Buell, Ethan Bumgarner, Cason Burress, Michael Campbell, Davion 74 Carter, Martez Clark, Braden Crawford, Roderick Daniels, Jamarr Davis, Kevin Diaz, David Duvall, Khamron Ford, Keyon Fordham, 75 76 Kejuan Garner, Tanner Gillis, Kam Grays, Stephen Hall, Eli Hamlin, 77 Fred Harris Jr., Jykeveous Hibbler, Michael Heirs, Jaycob Horn, 78 TreShun Johnson, Jacoby Jones, Tyson Keys, Kaleb Long, Corteze 79 Love, Quanterius Lusk, E. Jai Mason, Leo McIntyre, Jakobe 80 McLaurin, Jay Mickle, James Mitchell III, Jackson Mize, Noshua Montaque, Jalen Nettles, Bryon Pearson, Rontavious Person, Omar 81 Pew, Jaylen Powell, Tavion Prather, Thurman Rayborn, Kylan 82 83 Robinson, Jamie Shaw, D.T. Sheffield, Drea Shumaker, James Spratt, 84 William Stewart, De'Meric Strong, Charles Thomas, Jarvis Townsend, Vance Van Every, Quinzavious Warren, Fred Watson Jr., Trace White, 85 86 Jaquerrious Williams, Kiyon Williams, Matt Williams and Austin 87 Wilson; and

88 WHEREAS, the members of the 2021 MACCC State Championship 89 Football Coaching Staff, who have refined the Rangers' skills in 90 execution and continue to build upon a legacy of superior 91 athleticism and sportsmanship, are: Head Coach Benjy Parker, 92 Offensive Coordinator Stan Hill, Wide Receivers Coach Scott

H. C. R. No. 49 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 4 (DJ\KW) 93 Oakley, Offensive Line Coach Jim Jones, Defensive Coordinator
94 Paige Anders, Defensive Line Coach Rashad Pittman, and Defensive
95 Backs Coach Charles Jones; and

WHEREAS, just a few months removed from guiding Northwest to 96 97 its second consecutive MACCC championship, Head Coach Benjy 98 Parker, who led the Rangers to a 9-3 overall record after recovering from a 3-2 start to the season to successfully defend 99 100 their MACCC championship, has been named as the Region 23 Coach of 101 the Year for the second consecutive season, culminating in an 102 impressive program record for Northwest which now has claimed 11 conference titles, three since 2015, and becoming one of four 103 104 teams to participate in the inaugural NJCAA Division I Football 105 Playoffs this season; and

WHEREAS, since assuming the head coaching reins ahead of the 2016 season, Parker has led Northwest to both a winning record and a playoff appearance every year, including the 2020 National Community College Football Championship, and an overall record of 48-14, with a 30-6 mark against division opponents; and

111 WHEREAS, the holders of the 2017, 2019 and 2020 MACCC North 112 Division titles under Parker, Northwest has become a mainstay in 113 the NJCAA national rankings, and Parker's current overall winning 114 percentage of .774 ranks first all-time; and

115 WHEREAS, it is the policy of this Legislature to acknowledge 116 and commend the success of student athletes for the significant 117 strides made to bestow honor and pride upon their educational

H. C. R. No. 49 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 5 (DJ\KW) 118 institutions, their families and the entire citizenry of the 119 Magnolia State:

120 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF 121 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING 122 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Northwest 123 Mississippi Community College Football Team and Coach Benjy Parker 124 for winning the 2021 Mississippi Association of Community Colleges Conference State Championship, and extend to the athletes and 125 126 coaches best wishes for continued success in all their future 127 academic, athletic and career endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to Coach Benjy Parker, Northwest Mississippi Community College President Michael J. Heindl, the Board of Trustees of Northwest Mississippi Community College, the Mississippi Community College Board, and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

H. C. R. No. 49 22/HR26/R2041 PAGE 6 (DJ\KW) Football Team; commend on winning MACCC State Championship.