

By: Representatives Bell (65th), Summers,
Foster, Gibbs (72nd), Williams-Barnes

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

1 A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING JACKSON STATE HEAD
2 COACH DEION SANDERS FOR BEING NAMED THE 2021 SWAC COACH OF THE
3 YEAR.

4 WHEREAS, Jackson State University Head Football Coach, Deion
5 Sanders, was named the 2021 Southwestern Atlantic Conference
6 (SWAC) Coach of the Year, and he has realized unprecedented
7 success as the football coach for the Tigers, not only winning a
8 SWAC Championship but also developing the young men into strong,
9 determined individuals; and

10 WHEREAS, in just his second year as the head coach of Jackson
11 State University, despite undergoing foot surgery and being forced
12 to spend several weeks in the hospital and several more with a
13 scooter or wheelchair on the sidelines, Coach Sanders has led his
14 team to a perfect 8-0 in conference games, a 10-1 overall record
15 and their first SWAC East title since 2013; and

16 WHEREAS, under his leadership, the remarkable Tigers are
17 ranked in the top 15 of the FCS Coaches Poll and are ranked in the
18 top 25 of the Stats FCS Poll; and



19 WHEREAS, several other stars of the Jackson State Football
20 Team won SWAC awards, including Coach Sanders' sons, quarterback
21 Shedeur Sanders, who was named SWAC Freshman of the Year, won the
22 Stats Perform FCS Jerry Rice Award, and earned a spot on the
23 All-SWAC Second Team, and defensive back Shilo Sanders, who was
24 named to the All-SWAC Second Team after intercepting three passes
25 and forcing a fumble on the season, and defensive lineman James
26 Houston, who was named SWAC Newcomer of the Year and to the
27 All-SWAC First Team for his dominant season, leading the Tigers
28 with 14.5 sacks and seven forced fumbles; and

29 WHEREAS, additionally, defensive lineman Antwan Owens,
30 linebacker Aubrey Miller, Jr., and return specialist Isaiah Bolden
31 were all named All-SWAC First Team, and wide receiver Keith Corbin
32 III, offensive lineman Tony Gray and linebacker Keonte Hampton
33 were all named All-SWAC Second Team; and

34 WHEREAS, born August 9, 1967, Coach Sanders attended Florida
35 State University, where he was recognized as a two-time
36 All-American in football, and also played baseball and ran track,
37 and he was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons in the first round of
38 the 1989 NFL Draft and played football primarily as a cornerback,
39 but also as a kick returner, punt returner and wide receiver; and

40 WHEREAS, during his NFL career, Coach Sanders was named to
41 eight Pro Bowls, received first-team All-Pro honors six times, and
42 made consecutive Super Bowl appearances in Super Bowl XXIX with
43 the 49ers and Super Bowl XXX with the Cowboys, winning both, and



44 he was inducted into both the Pro Football Hall of Fame and the
45 College Football Hall of Fame in 2011; and

46 WHEREAS, the focused, resolute and detail-oriented Coach
47 Sanders exponentially influences each of his players with his
48 determination, ambition and intellect, and his elite status in the
49 football profession is truly exhibited through his recognition as
50 the 2021 SWAC Coach of the Year; and

51 WHEREAS, the nurturing presence that Coach Sanders has in
52 each of his players' lives has proven to be an irreplaceable
53 benefit with each passing day, as he has transformed each of them
54 into the championship caliber athletes they are today, broadened
55 their knowledge of the game, refined their skills in execution and
56 equipped each of them to realize their full potential, reach their
57 goals and achieve greatness; and

58 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
59 recognize and honor the selflessness and benevolence of fine
60 Mississippi coaches, especially those such as Jackson State Head
61 Coach Deion Sanders, an exhilarating combination of proficient
62 football expertise and sincerity who radiates excellence and
63 inspires all those who have the opportunity to learn and flourish
64 under his tutelage to be better than the day before:

65 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
66 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
67 commend and congratulate Jackson State Head Coach Deion Sanders



68 for being named the 2021 SWAC Coach of the Year, and extend best
69 wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors.

70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
71 furnished to Head Coach Deion Sanders and to the members of the
72 Capitol Press Corps.

