

By: Representatives Bell (65th), Clarke,
Summers, Foster, Williams-Barnes

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE JACKSON STATE
2 UNIVERSITY "TIGERS" FOOTBALL TEAM AND HEAD COACH DEION SANDERS
3 UPON WINNING THE 2021 SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (SWAC)
4 CHAMPIONSHIP.

5 WHEREAS, the Jackson State University "Tigers" Football Team,
6 led by "Coach Prime" Deion Sanders, reigned supreme during the
7 2021 season, winning its first Southwestern Athletic Conference
8 (SWAC) Championship since 2007 and completing its first 11-win
9 season in school history; and

10 WHEREAS, the Tigers, who had a superior season that was
11 driven by more than just the yearning to succeed, intensely
12 amplified all of their hard work, motivation and audacity, which
13 were so apparent all through the season, for the game that
14 ultimately separated the men from the boys to edge out Prairie
15 View A&M University 27-10 at Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium
16 in Jackson, Mississippi, on December 4, 2021, and collect the SWAC
17 Football Championship; and

18 WHEREAS, striving all season long to be the best football
19 program in the state, Jackson State University put aside the



20 excitement, fanfare and attention to focus on the championship
21 game and prepare as they had throughout the season, and that
22 strategy, along with the monumental support from the entire
23 community, helped solidify the Tigers' championship status; and

24 WHEREAS, bursting with wit and athleticism, the Jackson State
25 University Football Team's mental stamina and determination never
26 waived from the moment they ran onto the field until the last
27 down was played; and

28 WHEREAS, during the championship game that kept fans on the
29 edge of their seats for the entire 60 minutes of play, the Tigers
30 were losing 10-7 in the second quarter, and the momentum was not
31 in their favor, but once Isaiah Bolden fielded a kick at the
32 Tigers' 9-yard line, sidestepped a defender, and broke away for a
33 91-yard kickoff return and touchdown, the Tigers never trailed
34 again; and

35 WHEREAS, Isaiah Bolden, the SWAC's top return specialist,
36 came into the championship game leading the SWAC in kick return
37 yards with 500 in eight games, and his kickoff return for a
38 touchdown ties Bethune Cookman's Darnell Deas for the SWAC lead
39 with two; and

40 WHEREAS, while the old saying goes, "defense wins
41 championships," it certainly held true during the championship
42 game, as the Tigers' defense erected an impenetrable stone wall
43 that not only kept the pressure heavy and prevented the Prairie
44 View quarterback from being able get truly comfortable in the



45 pocket but also allowed the Tigers' defense to collect four sacks,
46 each by a different player; and

47 WHEREAS, James Houston, who is among the leaders in FCS for
48 sacks, opened the lead up to double-digits on an interception
49 return for a touchdown in the third quarter; Cam'Ron Silmon-Craig
50 also added a pair of interceptions; and Aubrey Miller passed 100
51 tackles for the season; and

52 WHEREAS, the Tigers, who played with nothing but heart and
53 soul all season, have a very talented and distinguished roster,
54 and each player made a substantial contribution that led to one of
55 the most historic seasons in the history of the Tigers football
56 program; and

57 WHEREAS, the team's statistics were impressive this season,
58 and there were outstanding performances by individual players, but
59 the key to the team's remarkable success has been the constant
60 team atmosphere and year-round hard work by the following talented
61 student-athletes: Josh Lanier, Shedeur Sanders, CJ Holmes, Aalah
62 Brown, De'Jahn Warren, Shane Hooks, Kev'Ric Wiggins, John Huggins,
63 Keith Corbin III, JD Martin, Al Young, Warren Newman, Cam'Ron
64 Silmon-Craig, Greyson Thompson, Malachi Wideman, Christian Allen,
65 Trevonte Rucker, Damon Bell, Cedrick Moffett II, Errick Simmons,
66 Demonte Holliman, Kare' Lyles, Tim Robinson, Caleb Jolivette,
67 Herman Smith III, Shilo Sanders, Peyton Pickett, Isaiah Bolden,
68 Desmond Moultrie, Tyson Alexander, Anthony Petty, Randall Haynie,
69 Trey Lockhart, Kevin May, Lane McGregor, Greg Williams, Javien



70 Adams, Glenn Misiak, Bailey Raborn, Jacob Polite, Santee Marshall,
71 Noah Anderson, Keonte Hampton, James Houston, Jeremiah Brown,
72 Frankie Dunn, Daelyn Dunn, Aubrey Miller, Jr., CJ Nunnally, Baron
73 Hopson, Marcus O'Neal, Kaleb Graham, Cedric Dunbar, Khalil
74 Arrington, Donald Turley, Abdul-Malik McClain, Nyles Gaddy,
75 Lafonzo Ruffin, Tyler Wells, Amari Catchings, Jakob Cunningham,
76 Vincent Sampson, Braxton Bailey, Deontae Graham, James Reddick II,
77 Stephen Singleton, Rufus Carl Jones, Paxton Branning, Kirk Ford,
78 Charlton Goodell, Demetri Jordan, Tony Gray, Jevonte Gardner, John
79 Mitchell, Charles Armstrong, Tre Johnson, Jency Riley, David
80 Studstill, Kobe Paul, Kortlon Hubbard, Kyland Richey, DJ Stevens,
81 Daniel Crowell, Jr., Chad Turner, Katron Evans, Tredarius Carr,
82 Justin Ragin, Tre'von Riggins, Coynis Miller, Jeremiah Williams,
83 Jaumonie Crain, Devonta Davis, Ke'Shawn Brinkley, Antwan Owens,
84 Markeyvrick Eddie and Donovan Hunt; and

85 WHEREAS, Head Coach Deion Sanders has superbly coached and
86 tremendously inspired the Tigers and broadened their knowledge of
87 the game while refining their skills in execution, and he
88 continues to build upon the legacy of superior play and true
89 sportsmanship forged by the tenacious and undaunted spirit of each
90 team member, as evidenced in his ability to produce high caliber
91 players and plays and by the team's successful season; and

92 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
93 recognize and commend outstanding Mississippi student-athletes,
94 especially those such as the Jackson State University "Tigers"



95 Football Team, whose hard work and perseverance brings honor to
96 their school, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

97 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
98 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby
99 recognize and commend the Jackson State University "Tigers"
100 Football Team and Head Coach Deion Sanders upon winning the 2021
101 Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Championship, and extend
102 to them best wishes for continued success in all of their future
103 endeavors.

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

